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GRANITE VIEWS **FRED BRAMANTE**  
**Santa's wrong number**



It was December about 20 years ago. I wanted to call my next-door neighbor and I thought that I had remembered his telephone number but I couldn't remember whether it ended with 7080 or 8070. I dialed one of them and a woman answered the phone. I asked in a questioning voice, "Lynn?" It wasn't. The woman asked, "Who's this?" I said, "It's Fred Bramante." "Oh," she replied and called, "John, it's Fred Bramante."

A friendly voice on the phone said, "Fred, I've been wanting to get in touch with you. I went into the Portsmouth store [Daddy's Junky Music] and asked if Daddy's would be interested in buying some Elvis wall plaques that I have. The store employees told me that the store would not be interested but that Daddy's CEO [me] might be interested."

I responded, "Well, they were right. I am interested." He gave me his address and we made arrangements for me to go over later that evening.

I remember it was dark and cold with snow on the ground. I followed the directions to a trailer park and figured out which trailer it was. I knocked on the door and was welcomed inside by John, his wife and two little boys.

He showed me these beautiful record awards for a number of Elvis hits. We came to a price, and then he asked me if I was interested in buying some music gear. I said, "Sure." He brought out an electric guitar and a number of other items. I asked why he was selling them and he replied, "I really can't play anymore." He informed me that he had MS and that he was losing his ability to play guitar. He also shared that he had lost his job because he needed his hands for his work.

This was heartbreaking. I remember thinking how bad I felt, about his two little ones, maybe 2 and 4 years old, and their Christmas tree. It wasn't much of a negotiation. We quickly agreed on a price. We continued having a friendly conversation when his 2-year-old came in wearing his pajamas. I bent down and said to him, "So, Santa Claus is going to come pretty soon." His dad responded, "Santa Claus came today." I remember tearing up.

That wrong number turned out so right. Merry Christmas to all!

*Fred Bramante is the past chairman and member of the NH State Board of Education. As chairman, Fred led the first full-scale education reform effort since 1919. NH is still in the midst of school transformation, aimed at giving students ownership of their learning. Fred speaks and consults on education redesign to regional, state, and national organizations.*



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## Kettle donations down

The Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign may have difficulty reaching its funding goal this year. Kettles have been out for a few weeks, but bellringers do not man the kettles until after Thanksgiving, which fell a week later than normal this year, Salvation Army spokesperson Patricia James said.

This year's campaign goal in New Hampshire is \$1,270,000 as Salvation Army leaders attempt to meet a huge upsurge in demands for help because of a lagging economy.

Across the state 10 Salvation Army locations provide individuals and families in need with general assistance and programs including a kids cafe, a senior center, disaster services and back-to-school packs for kids. The Manchester Salvation Army will be giving food baskets and children's toys to 1,500 families at the Radisson Expo Center on Dec. 22 and Dec. 23.

"It's our major time where we're visible to the public," Captain Herb Rader of the Manchester Salvation Army said in a phone interview. "People know us more at Christmastime."

The red kettle has been a long-standing tradition with The Salvation Army, dating back more than 122 years.

"[People] have had less opportunity to give to us," Rader said, but he thinks most people will give roughly the same amount as in 2012. "I just hope everyone has a great holiday season and that they can be thinking of other people. And we'll do our best to help people in need."

There are 150 kettles located throughout the state at various businesses and shopping plazas. Donations also can be made online at [onlineredkettle.org](http://onlineredkettle.org).

## Victim gets a face

In August 1969, a road crew discovered the partially decomposed body of an adult white male. He had been shot four times and left in a ditch off Interstate 93 near Salem. Despite exhaustive reports, no one has ever been able to identify the body of the man, who was between 28 and 40 years old, 5 feet 10 inches, and weighed about 225 pounds. The case has been re-opened and there's a new effort to try to identify the body. It was exhumed in

2012 for an examination conducted by New Hampshire Deputy Chief Medical Examiner Jenny J. Duval and a forensic scientist, according to a statement released by the New Hampshire Office of the Attorney General. A facial reconstruction of the victim was also created by an Oklahoma forensic artist, Harvey Pratt. The bust he created includes big ears, a big nose, and a big chin. The Salem Police Department hopes that images of the bust of the man will lead to a positive identification of the victim.

## Prevent youth violence

Gov. Maggie Hassan announced a new initiative aimed at reducing and preventing youth violence in the state, Dec. 3. Under the initiative funded through a grant from the New Hampshire Office of the Attorney General, the Manchester-based nonprofit Media Power Youth will offer free teacher training and curricula to elementary schools statewide. Middle school, high school, and parent programs also will be offered in some communities. Leaders from the fields of criminal justice, law enforcement, education, health and human services, health care, foundations, and business, and parents and community members will be brought in to educate on positive media use in an increasingly media-saturated world.

## Cut your own tree

Christmas tree licenses to cut down your own tree in the White Mountain National Forest are now available for \$5. Only hand tools, not chainsaws, are allowed for the cutting, and trees must be away from campgrounds, picnic areas, experimental forests, wilderness, or within 100 feet of a state highway, according to the White Mountain National Forest website. One tree is permitted to be cut down per family.

## Anti-gambling push

If former Republican state Chairman Steve Duprey and ex-Democratic state Sen. Harold Janeway have their way, New Hampshire lawmakers won't be passing the legislation to legalize a casino any time soon. Duprey and Janeway announced the joint strategy of the two anti-casino groups, Casino Free New Hampshire and the Granite State Coalition Against

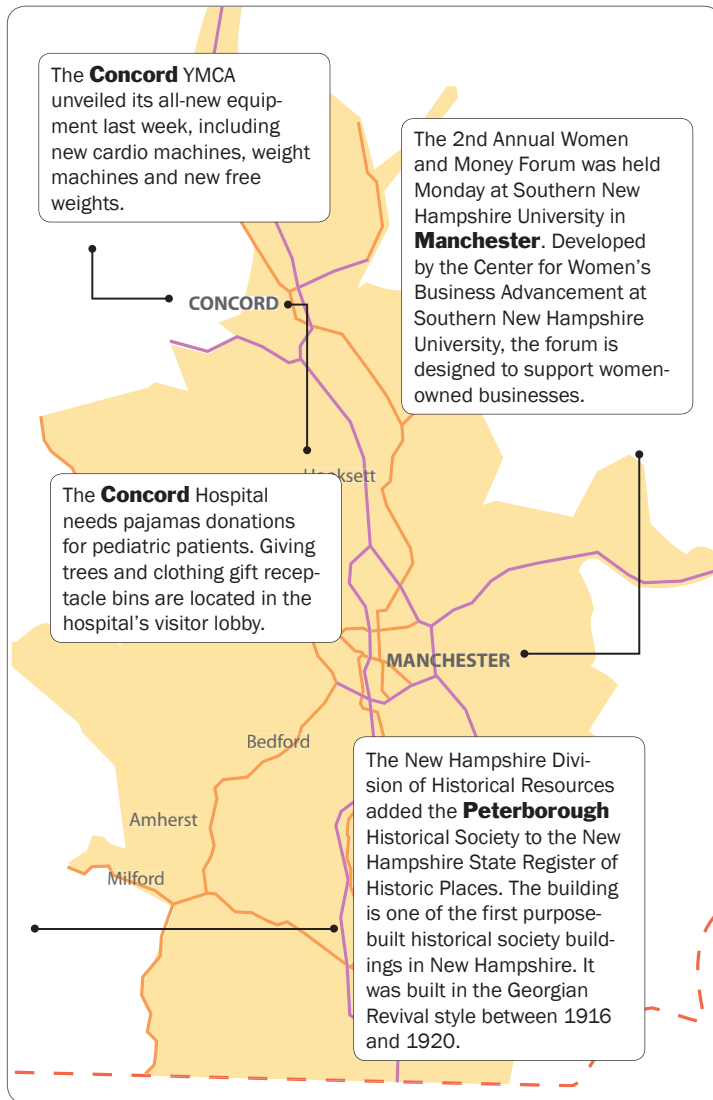
Expanded Gambling, according to the Nashua Telegraph. Both Duprey and Janeway were instrumental in killing the casino legislation backed by Gov. Maggie Hassan earlier this year. Now their joint lobbying efforts will focus on the House, and a committee that is preparing to recommend a new regulatory scheme, should the Legislature ever allow a casino to operate.

## F&G goes electronic

The New Hampshire Fish and Game Department will begin issuing regular hunting and fishing licenses electronically when the 2014 licenses become available in mid-December. Licenses will be computer-generated and printable on regular paper. Hand-written licenses will no longer be available after the 2013 season license year. A \$2 licensing fee will be charged per license form, which will go to Sovereign Sportsman Solutions for operating the system. The modernization is a win-win, according to a N.H. Fish and Game release. It will give the N.H. Fish and Game rapid access to license sales data, and save on printing and shipping costs. For consumers, at-home printing will be faster and easier.

## Dingman to be freed

Jeffrey Dingman, who shot and killed his parents when he was 14 and spent more than half his life in prison will be released on parole next year if he completes counseling and learns the skills he'll need to return to society, a state parole board ruled Thursday. "I've stayed out of trouble. I've tried to get myself prepared to move forward," Dingman said, according to an Associated Press article.



ward," Dingman said, according to an Associated Press article.

## New UNH Logo

Gone is the 15-year-old logo image of UNH's Thompson Hall clock tower. A new UNH logo was introduced Saturday during a men's hockey game against Boston College. Described by the university as a "crisp, contemporary" shield, the blue and white logo prominent-

ly displays "NH." It will be used at campuses in Durham, Manchester and Concord for digital, print and environmental branding. The new design received mixed reviews from the student body, Seacoastonline.com reported. Some students also objected to the fact that the redesign project cost \$100,000 from a privately funded discretionary account, and a New York firm did the design work.

## BEST WEEK



### ON-THE-RUN HEALTHCARE

The Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center is overseeing two Minute Clinics that opened in Concord and West Lebanon CVS stores, on Dec. 2, the Concord Monitor reported. Four more clinics will be opening in the next month in Salem, Hampton, Manchester, and Nashua. While Dartmouth-Hitchcock physicians won't be on site, they will be the Minute Clinics' medical directors, accessible by phone or pager. At Minute Clinics, which are staffed by nurse practitioners, patients can get basic health screenings, diagnoses, treatments, and prescriptions for common family illnesses, routine lab tests, and treatment for minor cuts, wounds, and skin conditions, amongst other services. Services begin at around \$59.

## WORST WEEK



### HOCKEY COACH

UNH women's ice hockey head coach Brian McCloskey is no longer employed by the University of New Hampshire as of last week due to "an investigation into an incident of inappropriate physical contact with a player on the bench" at a home game against Ohio State University on Nov. 30, according to the UNH Athletic Department's press release last week.



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## NEWS

# Buying local?

A short but busy holiday season is underway for small businesses

By Rebecca Fishow  
news@hippopress.com

Despite a shorter shopping season and unclear statistical indicators, the holidays are looking bright for Southern New Hampshire's small businesses.

Compared to Dec. 2012, "We're ahead," said Dave Dingman, owner of three downtown Concord businesses, including Capitol Craftsman, Romance Jewelers, and Viking House. "Our anticipation is by the time we get to the end of December we will be equal or ahead of last year."

Shifting holiday dates from year to year can make it difficult to measure and compare businesses' holiday season success from one year to the next, Dingman noted. This year, Hanukkah and Christmas are nearly a month apart, while in 2012 Hanukkah ended only eight days before Christmas. The date of Thanksgiving plays a part as well.

"In terms of the overall Christmas shopping, it's getting a late start because the time between Thanksgiving and Christmas is short this year," said Timothy Sink, president of the Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce. "But there's a fair amount of optimism that this will be a successful year, overall. It is going to be frenzied and over a shorter period of time."

## Small Business Saturday

The optimism sprung from the success small businesses saw during Small Business Saturday on Nov. 30. Gov. Maggie Hassan officially added it to the cornucopia of post-Thanksgiving shopping days this year in an effort to celebrate local small businesses. American Express started Small Business Saturday in 2010. The company offered one \$10 statement credit when shoppers used their American Express card to make a \$10-or-more purchase at a single store.

Many local small business owners said that while some of their customers did take advantage of the American Express incentive, many used other forms of payment and came out simply to support them.

"I was very busy," said Kathy Hamel, owner of With Heart & Hand Unique Gifts, "We had a lot of people who were shopping small business because of Small Business Saturday. It was obvious they were honoring that."

## The personal touch

This year, there was a decline in Black Friday in-store sales and a rise in online sales on Cyber Monday. Sink said he would be surprised if online shopping did not have a direct impact on retail shopping and speculated that the online shopping option is probably most

attractive to younger shoppers accustomed to Internet technology.

Hamel agreed that consumers are turning to online shopping more and more.

"Anyone who says otherwise is kidding themselves," she said. "But saying that, I am so busy today, I can almost not handle it. ... There's a couple of us who really know how to help people pick things out for decorating, or how to decorate a shelf, how to treat a wall or accessorize."

The personal touch of employees with expertise can lead to a better shopping experience at small businesses than big box counterparts or online. At Runner's Alley in Manchester, all the employees are runners themselves. During the holiday season, that means shoppers who aren't runner-savvy can receive top-notch advice about running gear.

"We're able to really help our customers pick out gifts for runners," store manager Betty Coco said.

## It's about the experience

Small businesses also trump online shopping and large businesses by way of the social experience they provide, Sink said.

Despite a bit of drizzle, there was a lot of activity on Main Street in Concord Dec. 6 during the city's annual Midnight Merriment event, Sink said. Families strolled and socialized through a decorated downtown, which combined shopping with strolling caroling groups, an Arts Market, children's stories, and other holiday festivities.

"It's an event with a long history," Sink said. "People just having a great time as usual. There is always a good turn out."

Cheryl Plunkett, owner of clothing boutique Fresh of Nashua, said the first official



Santa visits Capitol Craftsman and Romance Jewelers during Midnight Merriment in Concord last Saturday. Courtesy photo.

weekend of holiday shopping was booming downtown, with people coming out for the city's annual Holiday Stroll and Small Business Saturday. Since last year, Plunkett has seen an increase in business, and not just for the holidays. People are shopping small businesses more all year around. She attributes the boom to an increase in awareness about small businesses, as a result of social media.

"People want to support small businesses," she said. "I think there's more consciousness and awareness, with social media. It's not just TV alone anymore. It's becoming the cool thing to do."

In Concord, more and more small businesses have been opening in the past six to eight months, Sink said.

"Overall I have seen an uptick in the general economy. There are new stores opening up. I've been to a flurry of ribbon cuttings," Sink said. 🐼

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# Walk with caution

Gadgets, less daylight put pedestrians at risk

By Rebecca Fishow  
news@hippopress.com

Dec. 3 was a bad day for pedestrians.

Last Tuesday, around 4:45 p.m., 29-year-old Sarah Leech-Black of Thornton was struck while crossing near Route 49. Police said inadequate lighting at the crossing contributed to the crash. Leech-Black later died at the hospital from her injuries.

Then, around 5 p.m., a 12-year-old boy was hospitalized with serious injuries after he was stuck walking to his Newton home. The driver told Police Chief Larry Streeter that he did not see the boy, according to a Union Leader report.

And at 6 p.m., Hooksett police officer Mike Zappala was directing traffic when he was struck by a car. Zappala rolled over the hood and shattered the windshield before sliding back off the vehicle.

## Less daylight, more accidents

The connecting factor between the three crashes seems to be that each accident occurred after sunset, and after Daylight Saving Time ended Nov. 3. In general, the largest number of car crashes involving both pedestrians and cyclists occurs in the fall, after the clock changes and we lose an hour of daylight, said Dave Topham, director and co-founder of Bike-Walk Alliance



of New Hampshire.

It's a national trend; in 2007, Carnegie Mellon University scientists released a report that showed pedestrians are three times more likely to be killed after the clocks change. They researched pedestrian fatalities from 1999 to 2005 and found an average of 37 more U.S. pedestrian deaths around 6 p.m. in November, compared to October. That doesn't account for the change, in 2007, to the end date of DST, which pushed it back from the last weekend in October to the first weekend in November.

"The hours creep up a few minutes a day and then suddenly, wham. With the time change, it's like 'Whoops where did this [darkness] come from?' It catches [drivers and pedestrians] unprepared. It's a flaw in the time change," Topham said. "Combined with other other factors of not paying attention, there is a spike in accidents."

**Distracted by devices**

But the end of DST doesn't explain it all. In summer when more people are out walking numbers are also higher, said Lt. Matthew Shapiro of the New Hampshire State Police Special Services Unit. Shapiro said the summer is the busiest time for him, especially around Hampton Beach.

While the number of crashes varies from year to year, the reasons for them never change, Shapiro said. Seventy-five percent of the time, if the driver is at fault, then impaired driving, speed, obstructed driving and lack of seatbelts are the cause. If the crash is the pedestrian's fault, it's often because he or she is wearing all-dark clothing or is impaired by the use of a cell phone or iPod.

Pedestrian-related vehicle crashes are "something that's on the rise" this year, said Lisa Cramb, spokesperson for New Hampshire Driving Towards Zero Deaths, a coalition partnered with the NH Department of Transportation that's aiming to create a safety culture on NH roadways. Experts tend to equate this increase with the pedestrian habit of tuning in to gadgets.

"They are so intent in looking at their smartphone, Facebook, whatever," said Topham, who advises the New Hampshire Department of Safety and NHDOT on traffic safety issues. "It's just one foot in front of the other while looking at a screen. People walk into an intersection. They'll walk right out in front of traffic because they are concentrating on a toy."

As of Dec. 2 pedestrian deaths were up 14 percent since the same date in 2012. Last year there were seven adult pedestrian deaths and this year there had been nine until the pedestrian death on Dec. 3, which brought the increase to about 20 percent. Shapiro said he expects that number may increase before the end of the year.

Anything that limits a pedestrian's use of his senses can be a recipe for disaster.

"People will be wearing their little earbuds, and they cannot hear anything coming up behind them. There are no eyes on the back of the head. ...In the end people get hurt," Shapiro said.

New Hampshire laws prohibit texting for all drivers, regardless of age or license status, but currently, there are no laws banning the practice for pedestrians. Such a law would be difficult to enforce, Topham said.

To stay safe after sundown pedestrians should also be sure to walk against traffic on roads with no sidewalks, wear reflective clothing and carry flashlights. On the motorists' side, drivers should give pedestrians a wide berth and give pedestrians the right of way at all intersections, not just those with painted crosswalks.

**Non-pedestrian "crashes" up too**

Cramb, Topham and Shapiro all attended the Impaired Driving Policy Summit in Manchester last Wednesday. At the summit, experts in the field agreed that the word "accident" does not accurately describe most collisions. An "accident" implies an occurrence that is unpreventable and out of a person's hands, they said: A deer darting out into the road, for instance. But most collisions are preventable and should be thought of as crashes and not accidents.

The lowest amount of total motor vehicle crashes and collision on record was 84 crashes and 90 fatalities in 2011 and the highest since 2004 was 158 crashes and 171 fatalities in 2004. This year is up about 20 percent over 2012. In 2012, there were 93 crashes and 100 fatalities and in 2013, up to Dec. 2, there were 120 crashes and 123 fatalities. Another fatal collision on Interstate 89 in Lebanon on Dec. 7 added two more fatalities to the count.

"This year is going to be very much like 2010," Shapiro said, noting that it's hard to put a finger on exactly what causes the fluctuation.

Police say safe driving campaigns could be a factor, and so could recession years, when there may be fewer drivers on the road due to the cost of gas.

On New Hampshire highways, drivers now pass lit-up signs displaying the number of vehicle-related fatalities. State officials hope the signs will remind people to slow down and stay sober. In the days before the new year, the state will be increasing its messaging and enforcement. The state police will work with local departments have sobriety checkpoints, DUI roving patrols and speed patrols. Public service announcements will be broadcast on the radio.

"We hope for the best and will be doing what we can to help families as they travel to get together," Shapiro said. 🌈



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**NEWS & NOTES Q&A**

# Roshambo to the top

## Student organizes rock, paper, scissors tournament

Jack Miron, a 9th-grade student at The Derryfield School in Manchester, has organized a rock, paper, scissors tournament open to all the schools in the state. Miron enjoys strategy games and board games, which led him to an interest in roshambo (another name for rock, paper, scissors). With the help of some classmates and teachers, Miron organized the competition to promote friendly competition among students in New Hampshire. Miron's advisor, Dean of Student Activities Chris McNeil, said The Derryfield School encourages such leadership opportunities to empower students. The New Hampshire Rock, Paper, Scissors Tournament will take place on Saturday, Dec. 14, at The Derryfield School. Visit [rpsnh2013.webs.com](http://rpsnh2013.webs.com).

**Q:** *Where did you get the idea?*

I came up with the idea for a rock, paper, scissors competition a couple years ago when I got a book for Christmas, and in the book there was kind of tips and tricks for how to win at rock, paper, scissors. It said that it wasn't all just luck. There was a little bit of strategy and psychology in it as well. That inspired me to try and make a school-wide competition [at a different school], and that didn't turn out. So when I came to Derryfield — I'm new this year — I decided to try again. But this time I decided to go even bigger and invite one champion from all the schools in New Hampshire to come to Derryfield to compete. So that's kind of how the idea came about, and I made an announcement at the beginning of the year saying I was proposing this event. I talked to some teachers, and some students in my class volunteered to help me organize this.



Jack Miron

rounds of rock, paper, scissors, and each of those rounds is going to be best two of three. Then we're going to take the top two from each of those four round robin competitions, and from there we're

going to do a bracket-style.

*What are you looking forward to on the day of the tournament?*

I'm looking forward to seeing all these schools come together and meet just for a fun event. I've also turned it into a fundraiser for my class, so hopefully we'll sell some rock, paper, scissors T-shirts and we've got some foam hands in the shape of rock, paper and scissors.

*Have you ever had to plan an event of this kind of scale before?*

Not at all. This is my first time planning an event this big. I've never done anything like it before.

*Do you think that schools in New Hampshire don't have many opportunities to meet together in this kind of way?*

I don't think there's a lot of opportunities for schools to come together in one event, and it is kind of a competitive event. I know there are spelling bees, and there's the national geographic bee, and there's a state-wide math competition. But this is kind of more a light-hearted fun event than an academic one.

*This is a big project for your first year at Derryfield. Do you have hopes for future projects, or is this going to become an annual competition?*

Hopefully it will become an annual competition, and hopefully more schools will join each year. I think this is going to be a really successful fundraiser.

— Emelia Attridge

*What's some key advice for strategies?*

I did an experiment a couple years ago, testing to see what the most common choice was for rock, paper, scissors, and I found the most common choice for boys was rock, and for girls was scissors. Paper was the least common thing chosen — it was 30 percent of the time.

*So what will the competition look like?*

There are around 30 schools competing, and there are way more than 30 seats in our auditorium. I invited the schools to bring students' parents, student councils, whoever was organizing it. One school asked if they could bring a cheering team. ... We're going to split everyone into four groups of eight, and one by one each of the groups will have a miniature round robin competition in which each competitor faces off every other one. So, each person is doing seven

**Five favorites**

**Favorite Book:** *Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card  
**Favorite Movie:** *Star Wars* trilogy  
**Favorite Music:** Coldplay  
**Favorite Food:** Pizza  
**Favorite thing about NH:** The seasons



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## NEWS & NOTES

# QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

## No shrimp this season?!

WMUR reported that for the first time in 35 years, there will be no shrimp for New Hampshire fishermen this season. The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission voted to shut down the shrimp season for the Gulf of Maine, which includes New Hampshire's waters. The reason, according to the article, is that scientific data shows that the shrimp population is on a dramatic decline. It'll be the first time since 1978 that there's a complete moratorium to build stock. Fishermen, WMUR reported, are not to blame; the reason for the lack of shrimp, researchers think, is that ocean temperatures have risen in recent years. Shrimp and the plankton they feed on need cold water. NHPR reports that there are only about 5 percent of the normal number of shrimp left in the Gulf.

**QOL Score: -2**

**Comment:** Bad news for fishermen, bad news for fish markets and bad news for eaters. Shrimp is the only seafood QOL even likes!

## So much debt

On the bright side, at least we're not first anymore in national student debt rankings; as NHPR reported this week, New Hampshire ranked second among the states with the highest student debt. The bad news? The amount of average debt went up, from \$32,698 to \$33,000 for New Hampshire students.

**QOL Score: -1**

**Comment:** On average, a UNH student graduates with a \$35,000 debt and from Saint Anselm with \$43,000.

## Relaxed rules for horses

Some good news for horseback riders: After horse owners voiced strong objections to the state's plans to limit horses to trails wider than 8 feet, the proposal was dropped last week. Officials also dropped a proposed rule change that would require riders to remove horse manure from riding trails, the Concord Monitor reported. Under new proposed rule changes, riders can explore all state lands unless the land is marked as closed to horses or state rules specifically prohibit horses from the area.

**QOL Score: +1**

**Comment:** If you've never tried riding, the snowy winter season may be the perfect time to take your first trail ride. Many New Hampshire stables offer year-round guided rides.

## Baby bobcat rescue

Even though Sgt. Matt French of the Henniker Police Department thought the baby bobcat he hit on his way home from work two weeks ago was dead, he brought the animal to Conservation Officer Delayne Brown at Fish and Game, The Concord Monitor reported. Brown discovered that the young male cat had only been knocked out, and he transferred it to Wings of Dawn Wildlife Rehabilitation and Bird Sanctuary in Henniker. As an animal lover, QOL would like to thank Sgt. French for helping the little guy out.

**QOL Score: +1**

**Comment:** Identify bobcat tracks when you are out in fresh snow! Bobcats have oval feet, M-shaped pads and retractable claws, which will not show up on prints.

**QOL score: 74**

**Net change: -1**

**QOL this week: 73**

What's affecting your Quality of Life here in New Hampshire? Let us know at [news@hippypress.com](mailto:news@hippypress.com).

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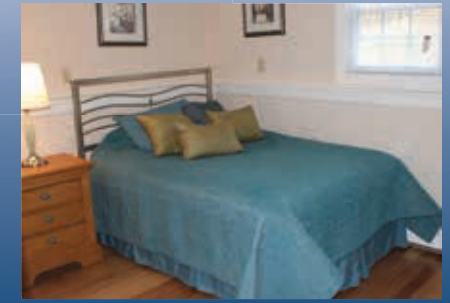
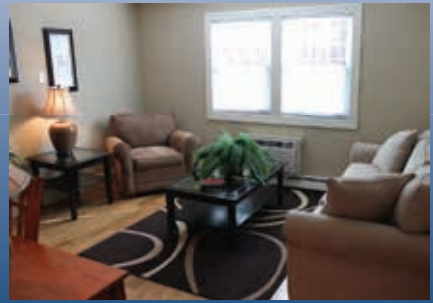
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## Ellsbury's long deal goes south

So the first test to see if **Ben Cherington** would stick with the fiscal restraint policy he instituted a year ago arrived this week, when **Jacoby Ellsbury**

flew the coop for big money and long years. That offer came from the Yankees, who apparently haven't learned their lesson from the fiasco of their 10-year deal for **A-Rod**, by giving him a \$150 million deal spread over 7 long years.

Deliberate Ben, on the other hand, did follow the lesson he learned as the Sox plummeted to their worst season in 47 years in 2012, a debacle partly due to underperforming big-money players everyone thought they were stuck with because of their long-term deals. But Christmas 2012 came early when the Dodgers incredibly took whiny **Carl Crawford**, **Adrian Gonzalez** and **Josh Beckett** off their hands, ostensibly because Gonzalez had great "marketing potential" to the southern California Hispanic fan base. So the Sox miraculously had newfound payroll flexibility, which Ben put to good use last year at this time as he showed it's now how much money you have, it's HOW you spend it.

Most in the Nation seem OK with Ells leaving, though that was not the case with the more rabid of the media dogs who were quickly barking at the "fat and happy" Red Sox front office, as the Globe's **Dan Shaughnessy** called them. On talk radio, the second he came on the air **Michael Felger** launched into a rant asking where are the Ellsbury "frauds" who'd been telling his partner **Tony Maz** that Ellsbury was a lot better than Maz thinks he is the last two years. Give him radio host points for the art of taunting to draw callers, but since news of the signing broke after he went off the air the day before and he launched into his tirade seconds after coming on the air, no

one had time to hide as he was suggesting. My question to all this anti-management nonsense is, can you get "fat and happy" in just a month? Because that's how long it has been since the Sox concluded arguably their most stunning season ever by winning the World Series.

It makes you wonder why anyone listens to these people — especially since **Felger**, **Maz** and **Shaughnessy** spent the last two years killing the Sox' "bad" ownership" and Cherington for his curious moves last winter. I killed Ben too, but I remember that he was right and I was wrong, and that earns him the benefit of the doubt. In **Felger's** world, apparently, if you agree with something management does, you're a green teamer. But back here on Earth sometimes they get it right, and it's OK to say so. While they were right that long-termers worked with **Manny** and **Pedro**, more times than not, they don't. And the decision to not give Ellsbury the big contract was not because of "one bad one" given to **Carl Crawford** as **Maz** said. **Crawford** was the last of an unending series of bad or bloated deals given to **Edgar Renteria**, **JD Drew**, **Julio Lugo**, **Dice-K**, **Beckett**, **Crawford** and the glider that eventually culminated in the worst season in 47 seasons.

So they changed their approach to limit the years on any deal (**Dustin Pedroia** excepted) and give higher per annum deals to attract players and it worked. They did it again in re-signing **Mike Napoli** for \$16 million per, but just for two years. Maybe they were totally lucky in 2013, but one for one means you try it again until it doesn't work. Plus I agree, payroll flexibility to make moves when needed and having good players all over the field trumps spending BIG on one or two star power players.

Don't agree? Consider this example from a team that just demonstrated it didn't learn from its own success of a decade and a half ago by just giving **Robinson Cano** a \$240

million TEN-year deal.

In **Ken Griffey Jr.** and **Alex Rodriguez** the 1999 Mariners had two of the era's three best players, at least if you go by stats. Junior was 29 and had just hit 48 homers and knocked in 134, while for the 23-year-old A-Rod it was 42 and 111. Yet they were a less than mediocre 79-83 and exit visas were being prepared. Junior was making big money but wanted to play for hometown Cincinnati, and A-Rod wanted to be the game's highest-paid player in two years.

So they traded Griffey to the Reds for 28-year-old centerfielder **Mike Cameron**, pitcher **Brett Tomko** and minor-leaguers who didn't amount to much. With the money saved, they signed **John Olerud**, old friend **Aaron Sele** and **Stan Javier** and jumped to 91-71. A year later, after passing on the \$252 million A-Rod got in Texas, they spent instead on **Jeff Nelson** and **Norm Charlton** to fortify the bullpen, second baseman **Brett Boone** and soon to be MVP **Ichiro Suzuki** and jumped to an all-time record 116 wins. Meanwhile the Reds dropped from 96 wins to 85 and averaged 75 in Griffey's eight full years there as he was ravaged by injuries. It was even worse for Texas, who finished last all three years with A-Rod and the mega-contract started the financial snowball rolling downhill for owner **Tom Hicks** ultimately filing for bankruptcy.

Throw in the Cardinals going to the World Series two years after letting **Albert Pujols** walk, while L.A. of A sunk in the west, and the lesson is that long-term deals kill and you can recover from anyone leaving. In fact, in most cases it's the smart thing to do. And unfortunately that's the case with Ellsbury — because no matter how good he is, seven years is too long a deal to sign anyone.

Something I betting history bears out.

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## Sports Glossary

**Aaron Sele:** Red Sox hurler-of-the-future in the early '90s. Went 7-2 in Year 1, but a pedestrian 31-31 over the next four seasons. Was traded to Texas in 1997 in a deal that brought back **Damon Buford** and **Jim Leyritz**. Sele meanwhile then turned into the pitcher the Nation always thought he would be by going 19-11 in Year 1 and 18-9 in Year 2 with Texas. Free agency beckoned after that and it was on to Seattle, where he went 17-10 and 15-5 to make it five double-digit-win seasons in a row.

**Twenty-Eight-Year-Old Mike Cameron:** Player **Theo Epstein** apparently thought he was getting when he signed him as a free agent to be his centerfielder in 2010 — a move based on stat geek metrics that convinced him it was a good idea to move speedy **Jacoby Ellsbury** to left. It was a classic case of outsmarting yourself through stat geekness and a total disaster. Cameron actually turned out to be 38, over the hill and an injury waiting to happen, while Ells got run over by a truck named **Adrian Beltre** in an early April collision on a pop-up behind third and was basically lost for the season.

**The Glider:** Real name **Adrian Gonzalez**. Baseball's first overall pick in 2000 by Florida, but traded three years later before making the majors for ex-Sox closer **Ugueth Urbina**. Then dumped by Texas in favor of **Mark Teixeira**, so it was on to San Diego for the immortal **Adam Eaton**. Struck it big in SD, where he piled up the stat geek numbers Theo loves so much to earn the mega-deal bucks L.A. took off their hands after wearing out his Boston welcome in less than two years.

**Robinson Cano:** Latest to strike it rich with a long-term deal that will sink his club long before it's done. A very good player, but would you give the third-biggest deal in baseball history to a guy who's knocked in 100 three times and hit 30 homers only once while playing in the lefty power paradise that is the new Yankee Stadium? Especially when the deals is for 10 years and he's already 31?

SPORTS DAVE LONG'S PEOPLE, PLACES & OTHER STUFF

# SNHU soccer national champs

**The Big Story:** It's not often you have a national champion in your midst, but Manchester does after the SNHU soccer team ran the table at the NCAA Final Four this weekend. They did it with identical 2-1 wins over Missouri's Rockhurst University in the semi-final and then in the finals over **Carson (hello) Newman** of Jefferson City, Tenn. **Jonathan Lupinelli** and **Callum (what you want) Williams** got the goals in the Rockhurst win, while **Miguel Carneiro** and **Pierre Omanga** scored in the final, while **Dom DiMaggio** was in goal both times. It was SNHU's second national Division II soccer title, with the first coming in 1989, and left them with a school-record 22 wins against one loss and one tie.

**Sports 101:** On this date in 1997 the Red Sox signed **Pedro Martinez** to a record six-year \$69 million contract after getting him in a trade for two minor-league players. Who were those players?

**Coming and Going:** The exciting news out of Durham this week is that Londonderry point guard extraordinaire **Aliza Simpson** is headed there to play her college basketball at the U. The announcement came this week from head coach **Maureen Magarity**, who called Simpson "one of the best passers" she's seen. The 5-9 senior was part of a four-player contingent making up the recruiting class of 2014 that also includes center **Morgan Bassett-Smith** from Pickerington, Ohio, **Peyton (manning)**

**Booth**, a 5-10 guard from Mansfield, Ohio, and **Emily Peters** from Lindstrom, Minn.

**Alumni News:** True, it's a little early for NBA draft news, but local hoopnicks might find it interesting that the latest mock draft on the website nbadraft.net (nice tie-in on the end of that web address for a basketball-related site) has Claremont seven-footer **Kaleb Tarczewski** going 13th overall after he finishes his sophomore season at Arizona.

**Alumni News:** Nice to see another SNHU soccer (and hockey) coach getting his due as **Rob Grabil**, who was at SNHU in the '80s, is in the running for National Coach of the Year honors for the job he did with his state champion Hanover High team this year. That already got him named New England (Large) School Coach of the Year by the National Soccer Coaches Association and put him in the running for the national honor.

**Sports 101 Answer:** Showing that it pays to trade young players for an established star, the Montreal Expos got **Carl Pavano** (108-107 lifetime) and **Tony Armas Jr.** (53-65) for Pedro Martinez.

**On This Date – Dec. 12: 1965 - Gale Sayers** of the Chicago Bears scores record-tying six TDs vs. '49ers. **Born: 1962 - Tracy Austin**, U.S. Open Tennis champ in 1979 and 1981. **Died: 1991 - Ken Keltner**, Cleveland third baseman who robbed **Joe DiMaggio** twice the day his 56-game hitting streak ended.

## The Numbers

**13** – with early termination clauses taken into account, the number of free agents the Miami Heat could have after this season, with the list including **LeBron James**, **Dwayne Wade** and **Chris Boss**.

**15** – clips of what Cardinals Coach **Bruce Arians** thought where "obvious" officiating errors sent to NFL headquarters for review in his team's 27-24 loss to **Chip Kelly's** Eagles.

**18** – game-high points scored by **Brooke Springfield** in leading the SNHU women hoopsters to a 76-61 win over Franklin Pierce on Wednesday.

**23** – shots turned away by Saint Anselm goaltender **Nick Dries** in pitching a 5-0 shut-out in the Hawks' 5-0 win over Assumption.

**40** – percentage of the first 3,989 people voting in an ESPN.com poll who said they believed Steelers coach **Mike Tomlin** was intentional-

ly trying to interfere with the Ravens' **Jacoby Jones** when he was slightly on the field in the Pittsburgh-Baltimore game on Thanksgiving night.

**291** – yards passing and three TDs for **Sean Goldrich** in leading UNH to a 41-27 win on the road over Maine in the second round of the NCAA Division I FCS Championship. Next up is fourth-ranked Southeastern Louisiana on Saturday in the quarter-final round at SLU.

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# the NEW old thing

How yesterday's  
castoffs become  
tomorrow's treasures

By Kelly Sennott  
ksennott@hippopress.com

Upcycling is not a new idea.

True, the word itself isn't so old; if we're to trust Wikipedia, the first recorded use of the term "upcycling" was by German engineer Reiner Pilz in a 1994 article by Thornton Kay.

But the physical activity of recreating with found or used objects and building them into something new, something better, has been around forever, long before Manchester's Not Your Grandma's Craft Fair and Goffstown's Apotheca, and centuries before websites like pinterest.com, etsy.com and uncommongoods.com.

Nanda Soderberg, a Concord glass-blowing artist, cited Marcel Duchamp as an example. Duchamp is the French artist who, in 1917, submitted a porcelain urinal for the exhibition of the Society of Independent Artists and called it "Fountain." He was also famous for a piece constructed from two panes of glass and materials like lead foil, fuse wire and dust.

"The idea has been around for a long time," agreed Merrill Comeau, a Massachusetts artist who's been working for the past two months on an upcycled art installation at Southern New Hampshire University. "There are all of these other people who came before me who have broken down barriers for the kind of work I do."

What's new about upcycling, besides

the word, is how *cool*, how mainstream it's become in recent years. There's a new wave of popularity sweeping through southern New Hampshire, and it's evident in what gift stores are selling, in what craft fairs are promoting and, more importantly, what artists are making.



## Apotheca Flower & Tea Shoppe

»—————«

**A.K.A.:** The upcycled "warehouse"

**Address/contact:** 24C Main St., Goffstown, apothecaflovershoppe.com, 497-4940

**What they sell:** Flowers, coffee, tea, gifts (heavy emphasis on the gifts)

**Owners:** Alyssa Van Guilder and Pierre Larochele

**You should also know:** The shop smells like flowers and potpourri

Many of the artists featured in this story show their work at Apotheca. The flower, tea, coffee and gift shop is located in an 1860s train depot, right in the middle of Goffstown Village.

In fact, most of these artists urged me to check out the shop. It's the kind of place that, if you were an upcycling kind of artist, would be inspiring. (Plus, there's coffee.)

Much of the shop is built on the idea of taking used or discarded items and giving them new life. The bench, for instance, that a spectacted customer sat at while sipping coffee and typing on her computer last week came from an old barn. The decorative shelving, tables and counters were almost all created from reclaimed wood from in and around town (much of it from when the nearby nursing home was under construction).

The rest of the furniture is in its original shape, but most of it's worn, lively with old

character. Old-fashioned sofas and tables adorn the front sitting area, and at the time of this visit, the front display was clustered with art by local artists and artisans, leftover from the Black Friday weekend artisan fair.

The shop also has this earthy quality to it — right when you walk in, you'll find a long, twisted branch (a very thick branch — in fact, it's more like a tree) hanging from the ceiling. Even this is, in a way, reclaimed. An invasive Oriental Bittersweet, this segment of the tree needed to

### Upcycling vs. Repurposing vs. Recycling?

Yes, it is confusing. The definitions can get muddled depending on who you're talking to. Generally, **recycling** is taking something, breaking it down, and then making the remnants into something new and, arguably, of lesser value than its original form. Reiner Pilz (who was mentioned in the lead as the guy who presumably coined the term "upcycling") scoffed at the term "recycling." Really, he said, it should be called downcycling.

**Upcycling**, he said, would be taking old products or discarded materials and building them into something that gives them new, better value. This might involve breaking down said items, but it might not. (Though, traditionally, the item you end with will not be the same as the item you started with. It's not like a paint job or fixing the leg of a table.)

**Repurposing**, on the other hand, is taking an old item and using it for a means different than its original purpose, without alteration or breaking it down. Jenny Berube's teacup bird feeders could, arguably, be considered repurposed, while her silverware jewelry is upcycled.

Of course, the words are often used interchangeably.

"In my own opinion, upcycling and repurposing aren't much different. In repurposing, you're not altering the product as much. You're using that existing object in a new way. In upcycling, you're taking apart an item and altering it in some way. You're breaking it down and using those existing pieces," said Heather Marr, co-founder of Not Your Grandma's Craft Fair and Dizzy Cupcakes.





Headbands made from used blouses and dresses, sold at Apotheca's added storefront in Goffstown. Kelly Sennott photo.

be chopped down because it was choking another down the street, co-owner Alysia Van Guilder said in an interview at the shop. It was also beautiful, she said, so they hung it up.

Van Guilder and her partner, Pierre Laroche, started Apotheca in 2005. In the beginning, it was a very small business, with flowers, tea and gifts, but then, money was tight and the selection was limited. They started it with just \$5,000 loaned from Van Guilder's parents. For them, using salvaged goods wasn't just a stylistic choice at first; it was necessary to survive.

The pair moved the business to its current, larger location in 2008, which is where they began the coffee shop and where their gift shop business expanded. The entire back half of the shop, in fact, was so full that the owners opened a second storefront across the street, which is where they'll sell more of the consigned clothes, jewelry, accessories and gifts. It opened on Black Friday.

The wow-piece in the new building across the street is a sculpture mobile, made from thin, wooden planks held together with, of all things, matches.

"I think it's really poetic," Van Guilder said, gesturing to the sculpture that she and Laroche made. Usually she said, matches are the reasons for destruction of wood. Here, they hold it all together.

Most of the items that make up the gift shop are made by local artists, but a handful, said Van Guilder, are imported from out west. Artisan fairs, shops and flea markets in places like, say, San Francisco, she said, are far more dense in upcycled items than around here.

One artist she met out there, for instance, makes wallets from bike tires and throw-away canvas paintings. Van Guilder sells these wallets out of Apotheca. (In fact, she

said, while counting the textured money-holders on the back shelf, they've almost sold out). Another artist she met out there makes purses from old books, and another, necklaces from tattered shirts.

Van Guilder seems to be just as interested in the stories behind the pieces she sells, and what's more, behind the artists' story. The stories, she said, are part of the charm in selling upcycled artisan goods.

## New To You: High-End Recycled Fashion

**Address/contact:** 15 Pleasant St., Concord, 715-5908

**You should also know:** After the original consigned clothing runs its course, it's donated to the Concord Boys & Girls Club, Girls Inc. and other local charities.

**What they sell:** Gently used clothing, artisan-made and upcycled goods

Owner Nicole Vera started New To You in 2011. Located in downtown Concord, the shop offers high-end recycled clothes in addition to artisan-made and upcycled goods.

About 85 percent of the shop includes gently-used clothing, Vera said, but there's an entire wall dedicated to these artisan-made items (some of the work is by artists from Wonder Made, an artisan boutique that downsized and moved in with NTY last spring). There's an art gallery out back, too, featuring art by Margaret Casper, who paints on salvaged wood.

"We sell a lot of locally made stuff. ... We had one woman who made Christmas stockings from old fabric, which we gave away during Small Business Saturday," Vera said. In the new year, the shop is holding a number of DIY upcycling classes (paint your shoes, make a skirt from a



Earrings made from old Scrabble pieces, which were on display at the Not Your Grandma's Craft Fair late November. Kelly Sennott photo.



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“A beer bottle is something that, once you drink it, you throw away in the recycle bin, and that’s it. I like the idea of making it into a tumbler to be used indefinitely,”

— Nanda Soderberg



Gold leaf tumblers made from beer bottles by Nanda Soderberg. Courtesy photo.

man’s shirt, etc.).

## Nanda Soderberg, Concord

»—————«

**A.K.A.:** The guy who makes stuff from beer bottles

**Takes:** Beer bottles, wine bottles, shot glasses, glass bowls — basically anything he finds that’s glass

**Makes:** Tumbler cups, bowls, glass mirrors, vases and other sculpture

**Resume:** B.F.A. Glass, University of Hawaii, M.F.A. Craft/Material Studies, Virginia Commonwealth University

**Website:** nandasoderberg.com

Nanda Soderberg knows glass well. He’s been working intensely with the material since 1998, when he studied glass in college. He’s taught across the country — in California, in Virginia, Maine and Washington — and he’s shown work nationally, too.

Part of why he’s choosing “found” materials in making his art now, naturally, is because it’s nice to see once-dead items come to life in new ways.

“A beer bottle is something that, once you drink it, you throw away in the recycle bin, and that’s it. I like the idea of making it into a tumbler to be used indefinitely,” Soderberg said. “People have associations with that object; you see that bottle all of the time.”

It’s why, for many of his pieces, he keeps at least part of the original shape intact. When he turns beer bottles into tumbler cups, he keeps the general shape, the roundness, the same. The top third of the bottle is

removed and the rest, as you’d see on his website, is speckled with gold leaf paper that he melts on. The overall grip of the bottle is still there when he’s through.

Seeing that it was something else is part of the charm. (Though, he added, beer bottles are designed to fit well in your hand. There’s little point in reconstructing the shape. “It makes the perfect cup!” he said.)

Creating with garbage is also a whole lot cheaper.

“Back when I was in graduate school, I started using found glass objects in my art. It was mostly thrift store kind of stuff,” he said in a phone interview.

“Then, when I got out of school, I was very surprised that nobody was going to pay me to sit around and make art all day,” he joked.

He uses a traditional glass blowing process in the molding of each piece, but since he doesn’t need to build the shape from glass — he just needs to alter it — it’s less expensive.

“I needed to find a way to provide, so I started a glass business. ... The biggest expense is the furnace that melts the glass. But I can make this stuff without a furnace. It keeps my overhead so low,” he said.

Soderberg hails from Hawaii. He moved to New Hampshire a little more than a year ago when his wife got a job as a high school art teacher at St. Paul’s School. He currently works in a Manchester mills studio. He has a background in academia, and he’s taught glass at a number of schools.

“It can be frustrating teaching these kids how to blow glass but not giving them options when they get out of school,” he said. “When I’m teaching at these summer

craft schools, I like showing them what you can do with a minimum amount of money. You just have to think about it differently.”

## Lisa Rogers, Bow

»—————«

**Takes:** Old, antique jewelry

**Makes:** Miniature, wearable canvas art

**In another life, she would be:** A racoon

**Favorite quote:** “Art is not what you see, but what you make others see.” — *Edgar Degas*

**Website:** lisarogerswearableart.com

Talk about a conversation piece. Wearing a pair of Lisa Rogers’ earrings is like hanging two miniature and elaborately framed paintings from your ears.

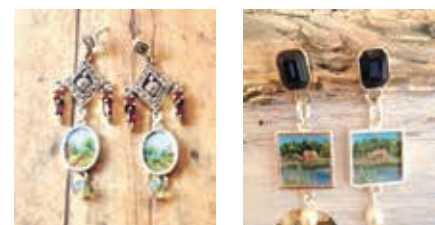
On the gallery page of her website, you’ll find tiny landscapes, fine china still-lives and even portraits in the form of necklaces, earrings, brooches and buttons. Rogers is a self-taught artist — she jokes she’s been an artist since 3, when she re-imagined her mother’s living room with blue and magenta Crayola — but before last winter, her art was on murals, on the backdrops of theatrical sets. She never imagined she’d go so tiny, she said in a phone interview.

This art combines her love of painting, jewelry-making and thrift shopping, though the three didn’t meet until last January, when the bead of a beautiful old brooch popped off. To her, it seemed the perfect spot for a tiny painting.

“When I put the result up on Facebook, everyone went nuts! That’s when I realized I was on to something,” she said.

Today, she works hard on commissions — holiday, birthday, wedding, you name it — after her day job, which often might mean she’s working until 1 a.m. But she doesn’t mind.

“It can be hard on the eyes, for sure; I do have a special lamp that replicates daylight. Plus I have reading glasses and a steady hand. ... But I love art. ... It [this jewelry-



Earrings by Lisa Rogers. Courtesy photo.

making art] just kind of took on a life of its own, and I’m passionate about it,” she said.

Ninety-eight percent of the time, she said, she’ll paint the designs on acid-free canvas paper with acrylic paint (oil doesn’t dry as quickly). The smallest painting she’s ever done in jewelry is 7 mL, the largest, 40 mL.

She’s started collecting antique (and regular) jewelry for her art. It helps, too, when your friends, co-workers and family know what you do.

“Some people just give me their stuff,” she said. “I grew up with a mom who loved going to garage sales. Wherever I travel to, I like to scour the local antique shops and flea markets. ... If I was an animal in another life, I would have been a raccoon. I’ve got bins in my studio with all kinds of vintage pieces.”

Most of her jewelry is made from pieces that otherwise might have been too old-fashioned to wear, she said.

“Most of the time, it’s something that might end up at the bottom of a jewelry box or at a yard sale. I like giving new purpose to things. I’ll deconstruct it, reuse it and give it a new life. ... I believe in making art more approachable, in taking it off the wall and wearing it so that people can see it,” she said.

## Heidi Bauer, Concord

»—————«

**Takes:** Magazines, newspaper, old books, packaging, calendars

**Makes:** Earrings, bracelets, cards, stationery

**Where you might have seen her:** She was at the Not Your Grandma’s Craft Fair and managed not one but two tables.



If you’re in the comic book scene, you might recognize Bexx Fine, who showed her work at the Not Your Grandma’s Craft Fair in November. She decorates accessories with old comic books and comic strips; she’s also shown and sold her work at Double Midnight Comics events. Kelly Sennott photo.





Upcycled beads by Heidi Bauer. Courtesy photo.

**How to avoid hoarderism:** “I give myself a year. If I haven’t used something in a year, then I’ll give it to someone else to use.”

**Etsy page:** [etsy.com/shop/HeidiKindFinds](https://www.etsy.com/shop/HeidiKindFinds)

You can sort of tell that Heidi Bauer is an English teacher by day by looking at the items she makes through her craft business, Kind Finds, which she started only a little more than a year ago. (Though, she said, she’s been an artist “forever.”)

Lots of her work incorporates text from books, from newspapers, from magazines, which she cuts out and places behind a tear- or heart-shaped necklace charm. All of her earrings, jewelry, bracelets and hair pins are taken from old items.

“Lots of art has to do with words and images. I believe that words have power and images have power. When you put the two together, it’s pretty cool,” said Bauer, who teaches at Bow High School.

“It’s central to who I am as a teacher, as an artist. I like seeing the possibilities in things that others do not,” she said.

For instance, she finds poems in old, destroyed books.

“I’ll extract a word or a phrase and put it on a necklace or in a bracelet. I work with lockets now, too,” she said.

She also makes greeting cards and hand-made stationery. Sometimes Bauer likes to bring these art projects into her high school classroom. She was blown away when she discovered that some students didn’t know what stationery was. And so, part of her creating, she said, is keeping things like the written word alive.

“Cards communicate in a way that texting, telephone, cannot. A card, you have that forever. It has a person’s handwriting in it! I think it’s magical. I love being a part of that,” Bauer said.

You never know, she said, what’s going to catch your eye, where your next inspiration will come from — a magazine article, a stamp, wrapping paper. She’s gotten used to the questioning looks when she asks to keep old wrapping paper at birthday parties.

“I love colors in general. ... I just look for colors in certain things. It’s like looking for seaglass on a beach. Somebody will give me a pile of things, and I’ll sift through them right away and decide what I’m going to use. ... It’s very intuitive,” she said.

## Merill Comeau, Concord, Mass.

»—————«

**Where you’ve seen her work:** Southern New Hampshire University houses many of her pieces; right now, the McNinch Art Gallery at the school is also home to her site-specific installation, “Remains of the Day.” It involved two months of collecting materials onsite that otherwise would have been discarded. There’s a closing ceremony at the gallery Thursday, Dec. 12, from 3:30 to 5 p.m.

**Takes:** Old fabric, clothing, cardboard, netting — basically whatever she can find.

**Makes:** Wall displays. Most look like colorful collages; many take natural subjects.

**Must-have tools:** Scissors. “Some people draw with pencil. I draw with scissors.” She also uses X-Acto knives, a Japanese saw, clippers, pins, adhesives and sewing materials.

**How she avoids the hoarder label:** She keeps all of her work in her studio. “Collect what you can until it fills the space you’ve allocated to it. Then stop collecting.”

**Website:** [merillcomeau.com](http://merillcomeau.com)

“You learn about where you are and about human life by paying attention to the material world,” Merrill Comeau said in a phone interview. She’d know; most of her art is made from remnants of the material world. She knows a lot about Southern New Hampshire University, for instance, because of her site-specific installation there.

“Materials that have been worn by human beings retain a memory. They retain a scent, evidence of youth, of human life. ... And I’d say the same is true of materials like cardboard. I know about SNHU’s consumption habits by what’s in its debris,”

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### Christmas Mass Schedule

Mass Times

December 24<sup>th</sup> at 4 PM

6 PM & 12 midnight

December 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM

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### Christmas Mass Schedule

Mass Times

December 24<sup>th</sup> at 4 PM

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*I'll be home for Christmas...  
Will You?*

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Monday, December 23

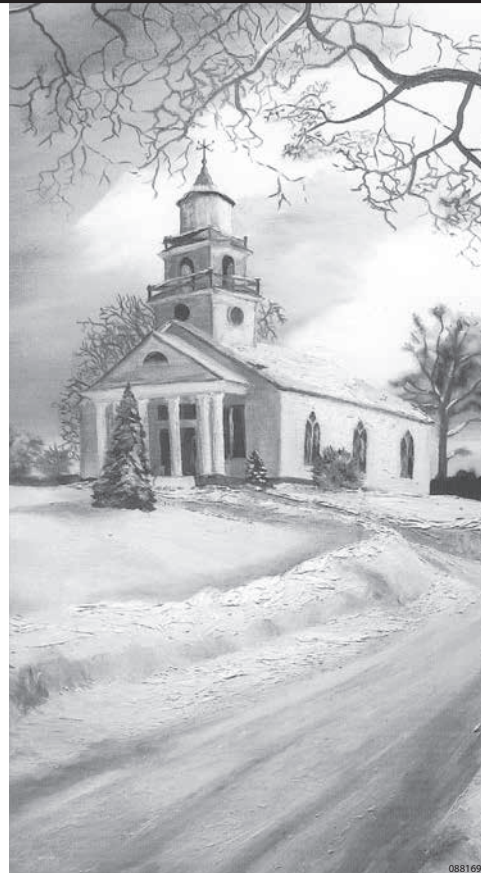
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she said.

She knows there's a lab in the Robert Frost Building at SNHU; its discarded test tubes made it in the installation, as did some cardboard Coca Cola cups.

"I always work with materials that have been discarded," she said.

Her friends, family and acquaintances who know her art will often pass their old things along to her. At times, she said, it's easier to get rid of something when you know it'll be used again.

"People, a lot of times, don't want to throw away something they're sentimental about. Sometimes, some people will give me their favorite dress from the 1960s, from the Depression. When they know that it's going into art, it's easier for them to let go of it," Comeau said.

She also collects materials from a linens antique dealer, who gives Comeau the materials she's unable to sell. Comeau calls her the Linens Fairy.

Comeau's work, which you can see on her website, is made mostly from painted and printed vintage linens and repurposed clothing. For the most part, it takes on this earth-like persona, which is completely intentional. She likes to use landscape imagery to create structure in her art. She did this at SNHU, too; Comeau took saplings from outside, painted them black and arranged them to stand, floor to ceiling, and divide the work.

"I feel that nature reflects the human condition, and I use nature as a symbol of our life cycle. It's a way to visually organize the material, but I'm also abstracting it. I'm trying to have people look at nature in a new way," she said.

Comeau says she's always been an artist; as an undergrad, she studied social theory



Art by Merill Comeau, who has an installation on view at Southern New Hampshire University for a few more days. Courtesy photo.

and political economy. Then, in her late 20s, she went back to school to become an interior designer. She had her own practice until 2006, when family medical issues caused her to halt her career. Then she began creating art. Remarkably, her first piece ever got shown.

"All those years in design really allowed me to develop my eye. I always made things out of stuff. People who knew me were not surprised," Comeau said. "It's just using everyday objects in a new way."

## Jean Rubin, Nashua

»—————«

**Takes:** Old bicycle parts

**Makes:** jewelry, bicycle racks, mobiles, ornaments

**Started selling her work:** At Souhegan Cycleworks, where she still works part-time

**Must-have tools:** Pliers, cable cutters

**Website:** etsy.com/shop/winterwomandesigns

"I really like coming up with the idea," said Jean Rubin, an upcyclist and jewelry artist in Nashua. "The whole process of coming up with the idea and figuring out how it's going to work is the part that I like best. ... It's the invention of the new items that's so alluring for me."

Rubin creates items (mostly jewelry) from old bicycle parts from Souhegan Cycleworks, which is where the idea for her jewelry originated about two and a half years ago. She works there part-time now, and it was her boss who encouraged her to make the upcycled jewelry that she now sells there, at Apotheca, at New to

“People, a lot of times, don't want to throw away something they're sentimental about. ... When they know it's going into art, it's easier for them to let go of.”

— Merill Comeau

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Earrings made from old bicycle parts by Jean Rubin. Kelly Sennott photo.

You, at the Currier Museum of Art Gift Shop and at Accents With Style in Wilton.

Rubin had seen spoke bracelets before, and she decided to fiddle around with the idea with some of the trashed bicycle parts at Souhegan Cycleworks. "I made the spokes into a bracelet and showed it to my boss. He said, 'Oh, that's cool! You should sell them here!'"

So she did. Soon, Rubin started taking all parts of the bicycle — the chains, the spacers that go between gears, the washers, the ball bearings from inside of the hub of the wheel — and began making jewelry.

Her boss now keeps a bin of old parts for her to sift through at the shop, which she takes home and likes to fiddle with. She uses other items — beads, reclaimed wood, "dumpster dive finds" — in her creations too.

"I love the contrast of beads against the more industrial look of the washers," she said, gesturing to a pair of earrings that hung over her desk in an interview at her home studio.

"It's not loud jewelry. It's subtle jewelry," Rubin said. "People are surprised when they find out it's made from recycled bicycle parts."



Jenny Berube makes bird feeders from antique teacups. Courtesy photo.

## Jenny Berube, Sunapee

»—————«

**Takes:** Antique tea cups, antique silverware

**Makes:** Jewelry, bird feeders

**Celebrity buyers:** Selena Gomez has one of her necklaces

**Etsy/Facebook page:** shesacrafty1.etsy.com, facebook.com/elegantlyeclectic

In Jenny Berube's garden, you might find a collection of birds and butterflies gathering for an impromptu tea party.

Except, of course, there's no tea in the antique cups scattered throughout the garden. Instead there's birdfeed and butterfly nectar, high enough above the ground so that the squirrels can't get to it.

Berube's upcycled bird feeders are made from antique tea cups, saucers and her own spoons with hand-woven decorative designs. If you're familiar with the New Hampshire craft circuit, you might already know Berube's work; she's been spending nearly every weekend selling her work at artisan and craft fairs. (For a week every year, she also brings her art down to Key West for its daily, high-profile craft show.)

Some artists who upcycle like to create from garbage. Berube likes to create

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*Holy Eucharist*, 9:00 a.m.

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Upcycled button hairpins by Heather Marr and Jessica Gilcreast. Courtesy photo.

from things that are already beautiful, like antique cups and silverware.

"I've always been interested in taking unusual materials and seeing what else they can be. Like the teacup. Does it have to be a teacup, or can it be something more?" she said.

She finds these items by thrift shopping at flea markets and antique stores during the week.

Of course, the items aren't in prime condition; oftentimes, the antique silverware, in particular, is blackened and tarnished, really not suitable to eat with anymore.

When this is the case, she chops off the head of the spoon, fork, or knife, cleans it up and creates a necklace from it.

"These pieces that I use for jewelry, when I buy them, are completely black and covered with tarnish. They're dirty, dusty, but once you get under the surface, you see that each is super unique and super one-of-a-kind," she said.

It's nice, too, she said, because she gets to work with silver in an affordable way.

"Obviously, I can't afford to work with solid silver things. ... I'm still looking for things that are still really pretty," she said. "These pieces are unloved, they're forgotten about, and by me taking them and recreating from them, I'm helping them fulfill their silver destiny."

### Jessica Gilcreast, Bedford

**Known for:** Co-creator of Manchester's Not Your Grandma's Craft Fair and Dizzy Cupcakes, a business she started with Heather Marr that focuses on creating crafty arts and "sassy-inspired" pieces, often by upcycling.

**Why upcycle?** "I like it because I don't do any one particular type of work," Gilcreast said. Really, it becomes more a question of how to use something rather than what to make.

**Most recent upcycled piece:** A collection of

wreaths. "This summer, I had a collection of grape vines that were choking these trees in my backyard. It became a question of, 'What am I going to do with all of this grapevine?!' I made giant wreaths out of them," Gilcreast said. Those wreaths are on display at Labelle Winery in Amherst.

**Favorite stomping grounds:** The dump store, yard sales

**Website:** [nygcf.org](http://nygcf.org)

"Don't throw that away. I'll find something to use it for."

If you're Jessica Gilcreast's friend, you might have heard her say this. An artist, upcycler, crafter and repurposer, she's trained to look at things — trashed, discarded items, especially — with a different eye.

She's not afraid to embarrass her husband and pull over to pick up items on the side of the road marked with "free" signs. She's not afraid to admit, either, that her town dump's store is one of her favorite places to pick up odds and ends to make with.

Gilcreast agrees that repurposing and upcycling are not new ideas, but if Heather Marr's and her very successful craft fair is any indication, it's definitely trending right now. A large portion of the artists at the craft fair this year were upcyclers, and the pair actually ran out of room for vendors.

"I think [upcycling is] more mainstream now. Before, it was in smaller artistic communities, whereas now, you can find someone making bicycle parts into jewelry pretty easily," she said. One of Dizzy Cupcakes's trademark items, felt flower headbands, are upcycled items, made from leftover factory felt.

How do you avoid the hoarder label?

"You have to use a certain amount of restraint. You can't use every scrap of paper [or] piece of cardboard. ... If I'm not going to use something anytime soon, I'm not going to save it," Gilcreast said.





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# THIS WEEK

## EVENTS TO CHECK OUT DECEMBER 12 - 18, 2013, AND BEYOND



**Saturday, Dec. 14**

Bring the kids to see *The Year Without a Santa Claus* (1974) at the Derry Public Library (64 E. Broadway, Derry) on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 1 p.m.

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**Friday, Dec. 13**

Go back to the '80s with a Disco Night Dance Party at the Merrimack YMCA (6 Henry Clay Drive) on Friday, Dec. 13, from 8 to 9:45 p.m. Adults 18 and older are invited to hustle, swing or line dance for free. Call 881-7778 or email lboyer@nmymca.org.



**Saturday, Dec. 14**

St. Paul's School Ballet Company presents *The Nutcracker: Act II* on Friday, Dec. 13, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 14, at 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 15, at 2 p.m., in Memorial Hall, St., Paul's School, 325 Pleasant St., Concord, 229-5626. Free.



**Saturday, Dec. 14**

The New England Irish Harp Orchestra, Regina Delaney, Claudia Altemus and guest musicians will play at the Concord Public Library (45 Green St., Concord, 225-8670) at 2 p.m.



**Tuesday, Dec. 17**

The Concord Parks and Recreation Programs (14 Canterbury Road, Concord, 225-8690, concordparksandrec.com) will have a scheduled tour of the ConcordTV media center from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Learn about production and volunteer opportunities.

**Eat**

Indulge in a student-inspired five-course holiday dinner at Southern New Hampshire University's The Quill Restaurant (2500 N. River Road, Manchester, 629-4608, snhu.edu) on Thurs., Dec. 12. Cost \$35. Reservations required.

**Drink**

Mothers and daughters, enjoy tea time together on Saturday, Dec. 14, from 1 to 3 p.m. at Bedford Village Inn (2 Olde Bedford Way, Bedford, 472-2001, bedfordvillage-inn.com). The cost is \$34 for adults, \$29 for children ages 4 to 10. Reservations required. See website for menu.

**Be Merry**

The Red Star Twirlers will host Holidays for Children, a benefit performance for the Derry Santa Fund, on Sat., Dec. 14, at 7 p.m., at the Derry Opera House, 29 W. Broadway, Derry. Tickets \$5 per person.



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A family affair

Father, son, daughter perform in Gay Men’s Chorus’ “A Rose in Winter”



Sean, Wes and Sarah Chadwick. Kelly Sennott photo.

By Kelly Sennott  
ksennott@hippopress.com

When Wes Chadwick’s son, Sean, asked for a lift to the New Hampshire Gay Men’s Chorus auditions eight years ago, Wes figured he might as well try out, too. He liked to sing, and he’d be making the drive regardless. And that’s how Wes Chadwick became the first straight member of the New Hampshire Gay Men’s Chorus. Wes joked during a pre-rehearsal interview in Manchester last week that Sean “outed” him at the first meeting. (They weren’t surprised, said one the NHGMC members in passing. “We knew there was something off about him.”) Wes knew this meant a lot to Sean. Otherwise, he wouldn’t have asked for

a ride. (Sean can’t drive due to physical limitations.) “He almost never asks for anything for himself,” Wes explained. The New Hampshire Gay Men’s Chorus holds auditions twice yearly, and its member requirements are that you need to be able to sing; you need to be male; and you need to be gay or gay-friendly. Wes had sung in choruses before; he was a member of the Souhegan Valley chorus with his wife, Susan, for some time. But at this point, there were no straight men in the group. Initially, Wes was uncertain as to how he’d be accepted in the group as the only straight member, but he was very happy to discover a new family in the chorus. “It’s a group that lives as a minority sta-

tus, but they’ve been very accepting of both me and my son. It’s been nothing but a positive experience,” Wes said. “It’s nice to have scheduled time to go and do this together every week. We don’t actually share many enthusiasms, but we do both love to sing,” Wes said. Sean’s enjoyed being part of this niche, too. “It’s a terrific group of guys. It was really easy to fit in,” Sean said.

This weekend, the Chadwick family makes NHGMC history again, but this time, it’s in the form of Sean’s 28-year-old soprano-singing sister, Sarah Chadwick. Chadwick, who now teaches in Boston at the Newton Montessori School, has a bachelor of music degree from the Baldwin-Wallace Conservatory of Music in Ohio and a master’s degree in opera performance from the Longy School of Music in Cambridge. She lived in New York City for two years before moving back to New England to teach. She performs as the first female soloist in NHGMC history, singing “The Rose” among several other songs, in what will also be her first stage performance since she moved back to New England a year and a half ago. Her voice, said chorus artistic director Luc Andre Roberge, fits perfectly with the

“It’s a group that lives as a minority status, but they’ve been very accepting of both me and my son. It’s been nothing but a positive experience”

WES CHADWICK

chorus’s sound. He met her through her Wes and Sean, but he hadn’t heard her sing until he attended a recital at the family’s church in Nashua last year. “She has a very strong voice, which sounds good against the men’s. If she had a small, timid voice, it wouldn’t have worked because, though the chorus is a small group, it’s a powerful group,” Roberge said in pre-rehearsal. “But her voice provides the perfect balance against theirs.” “A Rose in Winter” offers some holiday hits and a few variations of those, including humorous renditions of “The 12 Days of Christmas” and “Jingle Bells.” Sarah’s excited to be onstage again, but she’s even more happy to be performing with her dad and her brother. “I think it’s really special that my dad and brother are in the chorus together,” Sarah said. “I can’t think of another occasion that we’ve all been onstage together.”

See “A Rose in Winter”

On Saturday, Dec. 14, at 7:30 p.m.: At the Wesley United Methodist Church, 79 Clinton St., Concord  
On Sunday, Dec. 15, at 4 p.m.: At the Derryfield School, 2108 S. River Road, Manchester  
Admission: \$20  
Contact: nhgmc.com

24 Classical

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- **DISCOVER THURSDAYS** at Discover Portsmouth Center, 10 Middle St., Portsmouth, 436-8433, portsmouthhistory.org, featuring Alamire Consort on Thurs., Dec. 12, at 7 p.m.; Piscataqua River Brass on Thurs., Dec. 19, at 7 p.m.; and The Aeterna Trio on Thurs., Dec. 22, at 3 p.m. Tickets \$12.
- **SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE UNIVERSITY MUSIC MAJORS WINTER RECITAL** on Thurs., Dec. 12, at 7 p.m., at SNHU Dining Center Banquet Facility, 2500 N. River Road, Manchester. Free admission. Visit snhucalendar.

snhu.edu, call 629-4626.

- **SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE WIND ENSEMBLE CONCERT** on Fri., Dec. 13, at 7 p.m., at SNHU Dining Center Banquet Facility, 2500 N. River Road, Manchester. Free admission. Visit snhucalendar.snhu.edu, call 629-4626.
- **A ROSE IN WINTER** NH Gay Men’s Chorus concert at Judd Gregg Hall Auditorium at the Nashua Community College (505 Amherst St., Nashua) on Sat., Dec. 14, at 7:30 p.m.; and at the Derryfield School, 2108 River Road, Manchester, on Sun., Dec. 15, at 4 p.m. Tickets \$20 per person. Visit nhgmc.

26 Theater

Includes listings, shows, auditions, workshops and more. To get listed, e-mail arts@hippopress.com.

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- **CONCORD COMMUNITY MUSIC SCHOOL HOLIDAY FOLK CONCERT** on Sat., Dec. 14, at 7:30 p.m., in Music School Recital Hall, 23 Wall St., Concord. Vocal, instrumental arrangement of Christmas carols, seasonal songs, featuring David Surette and Susie Burke with Kent Allyn. Call 228-1196 for tickets (advance registration recommended), visit cemusic-school.org.
- **ON EARTH, PEACE: A CHRISTMAS TAPESTRY** Manchester Choral Society carolers at Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manches-

ter, on Sat., Dec. 14, at 7 p.m.; and Sun., Dec. 15, at 3 p.m., at Bethany Covenant Church, 1 Covenant Way, Bedford. Tickets \$25 per person.

- **MERRIMACK CONCERT ASSOCIATION HOLIDAY CONCERT** on Sat., Dec. 14, at 2 p.m., at Merrimack High School (38 McElwain St., Merrimack). Featuring performances by Merrimack chorus, concert band, MCA pianist Molly Wood and Thorntons Ferry Elementary School 4th grade chorus. Tickets \$7. Call 233-2557, email info@merrimackconcert.org.
- **JOYCE SANBORN MEMORIAL CONCERT** on Sat., Dec.

28 Art

Includes listings for gallery events, ongoing exhibits and classes. To get listed, e-mail arts@hippopress.com.

14, at 7:30 p.m., at First Congregational Church of Pembroke, 301 Pembroke St., Pembroke. Free event.

- **LAKES REGION SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA HOLIDAY POPS** concert on Sat., Dec. 14, at 7:30 p.m., and Sun., Dec. 15, at 3 p.m., at Inter-Lakes Auditorium, 1 Laker Lane, Meridith. Featuring holiday favorites sung by vocalist Emily Jaworski. Tickets \$15. Visit LRSO.org.
- **NEW ENGLAND IRISH HARP ORCHESTRA AND GUESTS** play at the Concord Public Library (45 Green St., Concord, 225-8670) on Sat.,

Dec. 14, at 2 p.m. Featuring Regina Delaney, Claudia Altamus, The New England Harp Orchestra and guest musicians.

- **G.I. HOLIDAY JUKEBOX DINNER THEATER** event presented by Majestic Theatre at Chateau Event Center, 201 Hanover St., Manchester, on Fri., Dec. 13, at 7 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 14, at 7 p.m.; Sun., Dec. 15, at 1:30 p.m. Tickets \$35 Friday and Saturday, \$32 Sunday. Visit majestictheatre.net, call 669-7469.
- **ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS** on Fri., Dec. 13, at 7 p.m., at The Cathedral of St. Joseph, 145 Lowell St., Man-





## TWO HOLIDAY MUSICAL WEEKENDS

Symphony NH is going big with the holidays, starting with the concert this weekend, on Sunday, Dec. 15, at 3 p.m., at Nashua's Keefe Center for the Arts, 117 Elm St., Nashua, with "Messiah & Co," a show highlighting classical favorites, early motets and carols associated with the season and highlights from Handel's "Messiah." Tickets for this concert are priced \$12 to \$48.

Then, on Friday, Dec. 20, Jonathan McPhee and New England Swing — Symphony NH's resident Big Band — is back for "A Glenn Miller Christmas," a sophisticated, cabaret-style evening of "dancing and merrymaking," as described in the press release, at the Radisson Ballroom, 11 Tara Blvd., Nashua. (This more-sophisticated performance is geared toward adult audiences.) The New England Swing performance starts at 7:30 p.m. They will be joined by jazz vocalist Amy Chicavich.

"This event sold out when we introduced it in 2010," SNH Executive Director Eric Valliere said in a press release, "and people here have been waiting eagerly for us to bring it back. This seemed like the right year, and I'm glad that we have moved it to a bigger space so more people can enjoy the fun." Tickets for this event are \$50 per person. Call 595-9156, visit [symphonynh.org](http://symphonynh.org). Courtesy photo.

chester. Traditional service, music led by Cathedral Schola and Chamber Singers. Free-will offering.

• **ST. PAUL SCHOOL CHAPEL CHOIR** presents 43rd Annual Festival of Lessons and Carols on Sun., Dec. 15, at 5 p.m., in Chapel of St. Peter and St. Paul at SPS campus, 325 Pleasant St., Concord. Free, early arrival suggested, doors open at 4:20 p.m.

• **UMASS LOWELL WINTER SHOWCASE CONCERT** on Sun., Dec. 15, at 3 p.m., at Durgin Hall, 35 Wilder St., Lowell. Free event. Visit [uml.edu](http://uml.edu).

• **WINDHAM COMMUNITY BAND HOLIDAY CONCERT** on Sun., Dec. 15, 2-4 p.m., at Windham High School, 64 London Bridge Road, Windham. Holiday tunes, swing style. Refreshments, desserts, visit from Santa. Donation of \$5 requested for adults. Call 965-3842, email [david@windham-communitybands.org](mailto:david@windham-communitybands.org).

• **SYMPHONY NH MESSIAH AND CO.** concert on Sun., Dec. 15, at 3 p.m., at Keefe Center for the Arts, 117 Elm St., Nashua. Tickets \$12-\$48; call 595-9156, visit [symphonynh.org](http://symphonynh.org).

• **BOSTON POPS HOLIDAY CONCERT** at Verizon Wireless Arena, 555 Elm St., Manchester, on Sat., Dec. 14, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$41-\$76. Call 644-5000, ext. 6003, visit [ticketmaster.com](http://ticketmaster.com).

• **"SWEET, HOT AND SASSY"** trio of Mary Maguire, Val Blachly and Ellen Carlson who perform at MainStreet BookEnds in Warner, 16 E. Main St., Warner, on Sat., Dec.

14, at 7 p.m. Part of the Historic Warner Village event in downtown. Admission \$10, reservations recommended. Call 620-0241.

• **THE ALAMIRE CON-SORT: THE LEGACY OF JOHANNES OCKEGHEM** concert at the Discover Portsmouth Center, 10 Middle St., Portsmouth, on Thurs., Dec. 12, at 7 p.m. Tickets \$12. Call 436-8433.

• **NASHUA FLUTE CHOIR: A CHRISTMAS CONCERT** on Sun., Dec. 15, at 2 p.m., in the sanctuary of the Church of the Good Shepherd, 214 Main St., Nashua. Family-friendly event. Donations accepted, \$15 for adults, \$5 for children. Visit [nashuaflutechoir.com](http://nashuaflutechoir.com), email [info@nashuaflutechoir.com](mailto:info@nashuaflutechoir.com), call 888-1741.

• **PORTSMOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA FAMILY HOLIDAY POPS** concert on Wed., Dec. 18, at 7:30 p.m., and Thurs., Dec. 19, at 7:30 p.m., at The Music Hall, 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth. Featuring the Sandpipers Children's Chorus and York High School Chamber Singers. Tickets \$24 per person. Call 436-2400, visit [portsmouthsymphony.org](http://portsmouthsymphony.org).

• **MCKELVIE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL A CAPPELLA CONCERT** featuring University of Chicago "Rhythm and Jews" and Bedford High School's "Achording to Us" on Tues., Dec. 17, at 7:30 p.m. Benefits Bedford High School Music Boosters. Tickets \$7 for adults, \$5 for students. Email [acappellaconcert@gmail.com](mailto:acappellaconcert@gmail.com).

• **MUSIC'S ON THE MENU:**

**A PEACEFUL HOLIDAY** "Heartwarming Songs of the Season" performance on Wed., Dec. 18, 12:10-12:50 p.m. at Grace Episcopal Church, 106 Lowell St., Manchester, featuring husband and wife performers Jill and Joe Deleault. Eclectic mix of jazz, pop, hymns, classics, sacred and secular traditions. Call 644-4548, visit [memusicschool.org](http://memusicschool.org).

• **A CHILD'S CHRISTMAS AND CAROLING** event featuring Sebastian Lockwood and Nanette Perotte at the Mariposa Museum, 26 Main St., Peterborough, 924-4555, [pr@mariposamuseum.org](mailto:pr@mariposamuseum.org), on Thurs., Dec. 19, at 7 p.m. Storytelling, caroling, wassail and holiday treats. Admission \$7, free for children.

• **SYMPHONY NH GLENN MILLER CHRISTMAS** on Fri., Dec. 20, at 7:30 p.m., at the Radisson, 11 Tara Blvd., Nashua. Tickets \$50 per person. Featuring New England Swing, vocalist Amy Chicavich and music of Glenn Miller. Visit [symphonynh.org](http://symphonynh.org), call 595-9156.

• **CREOLE CHRISTMAS WITH PRESERVATION HALL JAZZ BAND** on Sat., Dec. 21, at 8 p.m., at The Music Hall, 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-2400. Holiday classics with New Orleans twist. Tickets \$34.25-\$40.25.

• **DICKEN'S CHRISTMAS** caroling performance at All Saints Church, 124 Hall St., Concord, on Sat., Dec. 21, at 6 p.m. Free event. Visit [saintsnh.com](http://saintsnh.com), call 545-9079.

• **MESSIAH SING!** at The Music Hall (28 Chestnut St.,

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Robert Indiana, 1962, *Yield Brother*, 1971, screenprint, 39 in. x 32 in. Currier Museum of Art, Manchester, NH. © 2013 Morgan Art Foundation / Artist Rights Society (ARS), New York.



# Dickens descendant

Great-great-grandson performs a one-man *A Christmas Carol*

By Kelly Sennott  
ksennott@hippopress.com

Gerald Dickens, great-great-grandson of yes, that guy, is a bit ashamed to say the one-man show he’s famous for wasn’t even his idea.

“I’ve always been involved in theater — there was never anything else I wanted to do — but I always purposely avoided anything to do with Charles Dickens. I wanted to do my own thing, so I steered clear of it,” Dickens said in a phone interview. He was in Hackensack, N.J., at the time of the call, partway through his very long U.S. tour in which he performs all 26 of the characters in *A Christmas Carol* within a 75-minute production.

New Hampshire is the last stop of the tour: He performs at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Nashua, on Thursday, Dec. 19, at 6 p.m., and Friday, Dec. 20, at 7 p.m., and in Portsmouth’s historic North Church on Saturday, Dec. 21, at 3 and 7:30 p.m.

Dickens steered clear of his great-great-grandfather’s work until 1993, when, on the 150th anniversary of *A Christmas Carol*’s publication, he was requested to perform a dramatic reading of the play.

**See Gerald Charles Dickens perform *A Christmas Carol***

**In Nashua:** On Thursday, Dec. 19, at 6 p.m. (\$85, cash bar, includes four-course dinner), and Fri., Dec. 20, at 7 p.m. (show only, \$20), at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 2 Somerset Parkway, Nashua. Call 882-3371.

**In Portsmouth:** On Saturday, Dec. 21, at 3 and 7:30 p.m. at North Church, Market Square, Portsmouth. General admission tickets are \$25. Call 866-811-4111, visit [achristmascarolportsmouthnh.com](http://achristmascarolportsmouthnh.com).

He agreed, but mostly because it was for charity.

That’s when everything changed. Performing work by Charles Dickens, it turns out, is a pretty exciting prospect for an actor, regardless of whether you’re related to him.

“It was so exciting to perform, as an actor, with complete irrelevance to the surname,” he said.

His business started with dramatic readings and eventually turned into the one-man theater production it is today.

“It develops every time I do it, as I’m always finding something new in it,” Dickens said.

Not that there isn’t already enough material for him.

“As an actor, Scrooge is fantastic to perform. He has to go through so much. There are so many different Scrooges, and they all have to be recognized as the same person: bad-tempered Scrooge, terrified Scrooge, elated Scrooge,” Dickens said. (Remem-

**See *A Child’s Journey with Dickens***

**When:** Friday, Dec. 20, at 12:30 p.m.

**Where:** Nashua Senior Center, 70 Temple St., Nashua

**Admission:** \$10 per person

**What it is:** A retelling of a 12-year-old girl’s memory of her chance meeting with the literary idol on a train journey. The little girl grew up to be a writer, as well. “I recite her book, and I turn into a little 10-year-old-girl. If that’s not theater, then I don’t know what is,” Dickens said.

“ Charles Dickens has sort of a rock star status in America.”

GERALD CHARLES DICKENS

ber, Gerald Dickens plays *every character* in the play.)

One of his most surprising, fascinating discoveries was learning that Charles Dickens was a theater guy.

“He loved theater, and he wanted to be an actor. He became a writer accidentally, but theater was his big background. When I discovered that, I felt a really strong connection,” Dickens said.

Also surprising was the reaction audiences had to the show, in the United States especially. Charles Dickens, he said, is massive in England, but he’s even bigger in America.

“Charles Dickens has a sort of a rock star status in America,” Dickens said.

Dickens said his dad was pleased at his decision to embrace the Dickens ancestry.

“He’d always been a very keen fan of Dickens. He writes a lot of articles and he’d given a lot of speeches about him. But he was very good in that he never forced Dickens onto us as children,” Dickens said. “When I first started the show, I went to ask him about Charles Dickens, and he exploded with knowledge. ... He was fantastically supportive and he introduced me to lots of people in the Dickens world, which was invaluable.”

It’s hard to say exactly why *A Christmas Carol* is still so popular 120 years after its publication, but Gerald Dickens has a few ideas.

“It’s a great story. A great plot will



Gerald Dickens. Courtesy photo.

always live. ... It’s also filled with fantastic characters,” he said. “The issues he wrote about, the great poverty in London at the time, the ignorance of the rich and the poor, were things he cared very, very much for. Sadly, those issues are just as relevant today. ... It’s a book that makes you think about society and about how we should live.”

So what would Charles Dickens think of his holiday play’s fame?

“I think he’d want the royalties!” Dickens joked. “He’d be very pleased that this little story he wrote very quickly in 1843 would still be so celebrated and retold so often.”

Portsmouth, 436-2400, the [musicall.org](http://musicall.org)) on Fri., Dec. 20, at 7:30 p.m. (\$16.25). Community singing event.

**Theater**

- ***A YEAR WITH FROG AND TOAD*** presented by Seacoast Repertory Theatre, Broadway musical that shows Sat., Dec. 14, at 11 a.m.; and Sun., Dec. 15, at 11 a.m., at the theater, 125 Bow St., Portsmouth. Tickets \$10. Visit [seacoastrep.org](http://seacoastrep.org), call 433-4472.
- ***A CHRISTMAS STORY*** directed by Brian Swasey Nov. 22 through Dec. 22 at the Seacoast Repertory Theatre, 125 Bow St., Portsmouth, [seacoastrep.org](http://seacoastrep.org), 433-4472, \$22-\$42.
- ***A CHRISTMAS CAROL*** is at the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, Dec. 7 through

Dec. 22. Tickets \$15 through \$45. Call 668-5588, visit [palacetheatre.org](http://palacetheatre.org).

- ***A CHRISTMAS CAROL*** performed at Leddy Center, 38C Ladd’s Lane, Epping, 679-2781, Fri., Dec. 13, at 7:30 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 14, at 7:30 p.m.; and Sun., Dec. 15, at 2 p.m. Tickets \$16-\$18. Visit [leddycenter.org](http://leddycenter.org).
- **HOLIDAYS FOR CHILDREN** Red Star Twirlers benefit performance for Derry Santa Fund on Sat., Dec. 14, at 7 p.m., at Derry Opera House, 29 W. Broadway, Derry. Tickets \$5 per person.
- ***THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS*** at the Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 S. Main St., Concord, on Fri., Dec. 13, at 7 p.m., and Sat., Dec. 14, at 2 p.m. Tickets \$16.50. Visit [ccanh.com](http://ccanh.com), call 225-1111.

- ***THE RAGPICKER’S DREAM*** at The Music Hall, 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, [themusichall.org](http://themusichall.org), on Sat., Dec. 14, at 8 p.m., and Sun., Dec. 15, at 7 p.m. Tickets \$18.25. Includes house beverage.
- ***A CHRISTMAS CAROL*** at The Players’ Ring, 105 Marcy St., Portsmouth, on Thurs., Dec. 12, at 8 p.m.; Fri., Dec. 13, at 8 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 14, at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Sun., Dec. 15, at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.; Thurs., Dec. 19, at 8 p.m.; Fri., Dec. 20, at 8 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 21, at 3 and 8 p.m.; Sun., Dec. 22, at 3 and 7 p.m.; and Mon., Dec. 23, at 7 p.m. Tickets \$15. Call 436-8123, visit [playersring.org](http://playersring.org).
- ***DORKS IN DUNGEONS LIVE! ONSTAGE*** December “Violent Night” show on Sun.,

Dec. 15, at 7 p.m., at the Seacoast Repertory Theatre, 125 Bow St., Portsmouth, 433-4793, [seacoastrep.org](http://seacoastrep.org), pay-what-you-can, pre-order VIP tickets \$12 online. Portraying what Christmas might be like in a fantasy world with guest improviser John Herman.

- ***THE NUTCRACKER: ACT II*** by St. Paul’s School Ballet Company on Fri., Dec. 13, at 7:30 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 14, at 7:30 p.m.; and Sun., Dec. 15, at 2 p.m., in Memorial Hall, St. Paul’s School, 325 Pleasant St., Concord, 229-5626. Free admission.
- ***AN 1836 PORTSMOUTH NUTCRACKER*** on Fri., Dec. 13, at 7 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 14, at 10 a.m. (*Nutcracker in a Nutshell*), 2 and 7 p.m.; and Sun., Dec. 15, at 11:30 a.m. (*Nutcracker in*

*a Nutshell*), at The Music Hall Historic Theatre, 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 433-3100, [themusichall.org](http://themusichall.org). Tickets \$37-\$44, \$28-\$33 for *Nutcracker in a Nutshell* performances.

- ***A NEW ENGLAND CHRISTMAS*** presented by Pontine’s West End Studio Theatre, 959 Islington St., Portsmouth, [info@pontine.org](http://info@pontine.org), 436-6660, on Thurs., Dec. 12, at 7:30 p.m.; Fri., Dec. 13, at 7:30 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 14, at 4 p.m.; and Sun., Dec. 15, at 2 p.m. Tickets \$24.
- ***IT’S A WONDERFUL LIFE: A LIVE RADIO PLAY*** at Garrison Players Arts Center, Route 4, Rollinsford, on Fri., Dec. 13, at 8 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 14, at 8 p.m.; and Sun., Dec. 15, at 3 p.m. Tickets \$18. Call 750-4ART, visit [garrisonplayers.org](http://garrisonplayers.org).
- **FROST HEAVES ANNUAL**

**HOLIDAY HILARITY** show on Fri., Dec. 13, at 7:30 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 14, at 7:30 p.m.; & Sun., Dec. 15, at 2 p.m., at Peterborough Players Theatre, 55 Hadley Road, Peterborough. Call 525-3391 for tickets.

- ***A DICKENS OF A CHRISTMAS*** at Old Salt Restaurant, Lafayette Road, Hampton, on Wed., Dec. 11, at 5:30 p.m.; Wed., Dec. 18, at 5:30 p.m.; and Thurs., Dec. 19, at 5:30 p.m. Call 926-0330. Limited seating. Tickets \$39.99 per person. Includes gourmet three-course dinner, live music and show.
- ***TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS*** at Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 S. Main St., Concord, on Fri., Dec. 13, at 7 p.m., and Sat., Dec. 14, at 2 p.m., featuring 100 young performers from across New Hampshire. Tickets



# CURTAIN

## CALL

Notes from the theater scene

• **A Majestic G.I. Holiday Jukebox:** In its second dinner theater presentation of the 2013-2014 season, the Majestic Theatre gives audiences another “quartet” musical in *G.I. Holiday Jukebox*. What that means: A night of the kind of music that Hollywood stars and starlets performed to entertain “the boys” during World War II, with harmonies straight from the big band and swing era, for a “nostalgic retrospective of America,” according to a press release. Brian Moore, Rebecca Rush, Anja Ward and Marc Willis will perform in four-part harmony during the weekend of shows, Friday, Dec. 13, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 14, at 7 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 15, at 1:30 p.m. All shows are at the Chateau Event Center, 201 Hanover St., Manchester.

If you still can’t decide whether to attend, look at the menu; tickets (which are \$35 Friday and Saturday, \$32 on Sunday) include a roast pork entree with a tossed garden salad, the chef’s choice of starch/vegetable and apple pie for dessert. Call 669-7469, visit majestictheatre.net to make reservations.



The cast of *G.I. Holiday Jukebox*. Pictured left to right, top row: Marc Willis of Concord, Brian Moore of Peterborough. Bottom row: Anja Ward of Derry and Becky Rush of Pembroke. Courtesy photo.

\$16.50. Visit ccanh.com, call 225-1111.  
• **STELLA AND LOU** shows at the Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 132 Warren St., Lowell, Mass., 978-654-7550, mrt.org, Nov. 29 through Dec. 22. Tickets start at \$20.  
• **GERALD CHARLES DICKENS** great-great grandson of Charles Dickens performs his one-man stage adaptation of *A Christmas Carol* on Thurs., Dec. 19, at 6 p.m. (intimate night, \$85 per person), and Fri., Dec. 20, at 7 p.m., at Crowne Plaza Hotel, 2 Somerset Parkway, Nashua (larger audience, \$20 per person). Call 882-3371. He

also performs at Portsmouth’s Historic North Church in Market Square, Portsmouth, on Sat., Dec. 21, at 3 and 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$25 per person, available online at achristmascarol-portsmouthnh.com or by calling 866-811-4111.  
• **A CHRISTMAS CAROL** at the Rochester Opera House, 31 Wakefield St., Rochester, rochesteroperahouse.com, 436-2400, themusichall.org, on Thurs., Dec. 19, at 7 p.m.; Fri., Dec. 20, at 7 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 21, at 2 and 7 p.m.; and Sun., Dec. 22, at 2 p.m. Tickets \$14-\$16. Modern take. Call 335-1992, visit rochesteroperahouse.com.

• **THE NUTCRACKER** performed by the New Hampshire School of Ballet on Fri., Dec. 20, at 7 p.m., at Concord City Auditorium, 2 Prince St., Concord. Tickets \$15. Call 668-5330, email nhsb@comcast.net.  
• **THE NUTCRACKER** performed by Turning Pointe Center of Dance at Concord City Auditorium, 2 Prince St., Concord, on Sat., Dec. 14, at 2 p.m. Featuring 60 girls and boys ranging in age 3 to 18. Tickets \$15. Call 485-8710.  
• **THE NUTCRACKER** presented by Gate City Ballet at the Stockbridge Theatre, 5 Pinkerton St., Derry, on Fri., Dec. 20, at 6:30 p.m., and Sat., Dec. 21,

(Advance registrations are required, and parties who want to sit together should reserve tickets together.)

• **A tapestry of Christmas:** The Manchester Choral Society performs “On Earth, Peace: A Christmas Tapestry” on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 7 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 15, at 3 p.m., at the Bethany Covenant Church, 1 Covenant Way, Bedford. Joining the choral society is the 2G MCS Youth Chorus and the Manchester High School Central Chamber Singers. Included in the programming is Dietrich Buxtehude’s celebratory “Das neugebor’ne Kindelein (The Newborn Baby)”, Gerald Finzi’s “In terra pax,” and the “Gloucester Magnificat” by Herbert Howells. Tickets are \$25. Call 472-6627 or visit mcsnh.org.

• **NH Theater people, get ready:** The New Hampshire Theater Awards recently unveiled the details for its 12th Annual Awards show, which this year, is again at the Stockbridge Theater at Pinkerton Academy, Derry, on Saturday, Jan. 25, at 7 p.m. Last year’s writer/director Scott H. Severance returns (this time as writer/performer), and Portsmouth-based professional director/actor/writer Billy Butler will work as director. Ticket prices will remain the same as last year, which start at \$20. They’ll be available for online purchase starting Dec. 16. Visit NHTheatreAwards.org for more details. — *Kelly Sennott*

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# LOCAL — COLOR — NH art world news

• **“Local Color:”** The Goffstown Main Street Program opens a pop-up gallery called “Local Color” during December at Art Made Easely, 4 Main St., Goffstown. There will hang the work of 12 area artists: Susan Babine, Jane Brzozowski, Ann Trainor Domingue, Nina Dugal, Amber Grise, Jim Hallene, Peggy Hatfield, Carole Huxel, Kia Kouyoumjian, Reta MacGregor, Judy McLean, Inge Seaboyer and Patricia Schubert.

“We had a lot of success with our first pop-up last year, and we were looking for an opportunity to try it again,” said Robbie Grady, executive director of the Main Street program, in a press release. “We’re teaming up with owner Steve Pascucci to



“Triumphal Arch” by Marina Forbes.

open the gallery just for this month, and we’re all excited about it.”

The pop-up gallery will also feature separate evening workshops that will be conducted by several of the artists. Call

497-9933, email [info@goffstownmain-street.org](mailto:info@goffstownmain-street.org).

• **The perfect combination of art and wine:** McGowan Fine Art is presenting its first collaborative show at Labelle Winery (345 Route 101, Amherst) through January, with scenic woodblock prints by Matthew Brown and watercolors by Bruce McColl. There will be a reception on Saturday, Dec. 21, from 1 to 3 p.m., at which time visitors can meet and speak with the artists. (The event is held in conjunction with the a caroling event featuring StageCoach Women’s Chorus.) Call 672-9898 or email [michelle@labellewinerynh.com](mailto:michelle@labellewinerynh.com).

• **For a family Saturday:** The Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester, hosts a day for family fun that highlights the gallery exhibition, “Africa Interweave: Textile Diasporas,” on Saturday, Dec. 14, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (Admission for children 12 and younger is free all of the time and free for adults who

arrive between 10 a.m. and noon.) Kids can explore the textiles within the special exhibition and then try weaving on a cardboard loom that they can take home. Visit [currier.org](http://currier.org) or call 669-6144.

• **International holiday:** The New England Language Center’s International Art Gallery (16 Hillside Drive, Rochester) holds a Russian Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, Dec. 14, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. This event, which is free, features an exhibit of contemporary Russian art and traditional Russian icons and tellings of Russian stories and history, according to the release. Items on view (and for sale) include Matryoshka doll sets, Khokhlama bowls, spoons candlesticks, hand-painted eggs, figurines, icons, holiday greeting cards, etc. There will also be an opportunity to paint Russian Troika and Grandfather Frost Christmas cards for a small contribution. Call 332-2255 or email [marina@anylanguage.org](mailto:marina@anylanguage.org) for details. — *Kelly Sennott*

at 1 & 4 p.m. Tickets \$18 each. Call 537-5210, visit [stockbridgetheatre.com](http://stockbridgetheatre.com).

• **LAS POSADAS** award-winning musical adaptation of Tomie dePaola’s *The Night of Las Posadas* on Fri., Dec. 13, at 12:30 p.m., at Presentation of Mary Academy (182 Lowell Road, Hudson); on Sat., Dec. 14, at 1 p.m., at Congregational Church of Henniker (Maple St., Henniker), and at 3:30 p.m. at Washington Congregational Church (1 Halfmoon Pond Road, Washington); and at Concord Community Music School, 23 Wall St., Concord, on Sun., Dec. 22, at 3 and 7 p.m. Visit [alchemistsworkshop.org](http://alchemistsworkshop.org), call 568-5102 for ticket prices.

• **THE NUTCRACKER** by Northern Ballet Theatre on Sat., Dec. 21, at 2 p.m., and Sun., Dec. 22, at 2 p.m., at Keefe Auditorium, 117 Elm St., Nashua. Tickets \$18-\$22. Visit [nbtcd.com](http://nbtcd.com) for details.

## Art Art events

• **INTOWN MANCHESTER HOLIDAY MARKET** Thursdays, Dec. 12 and Dec. 19, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m., and Sat., Dec. 14, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., inside the Brady Sullivan Plaza, 1000 Elm St., Manchester. Visit [intown-manchester.com](http://intown-manchester.com) for details.

• **BELKNAP MILL HOLIDAY BAZAAR** at Belknap Mill (25 Beacon St. East, Laco-  
nia, [information@belknapmill.org](mailto:information@belknapmill.org)) on Sat., Dec. 14, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Items by 30 local crafters for sale (foods, soaps, jewelry, hats, sweaters, gourmet dog treats pottery, holiday decorations, etc.). Call 524-8813, visit [belknapmill.org](http://belknapmill.org).

• **RUSSIAN CHRISTMAS BAZAAR** on Sat., Dec. 14, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., at New England Language Center International Art Gallery, 16 Hillside Drive, Rochester. Free. Exhibit of unique contemporary Russian art and traditional Russian icons, storytelling, Russian cartoons, historical information about crafts.

• **HOLIDAY ARTISAN MARKET** at Rolling Green Nursery, 64 Breakfast Hill Road, Greenland, on Sun., Dec. 15, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Twenty-five artists, live music by Jerry Short, refreshments by White Heron. Visit [rollinggreennursery.com](http://rollinggreennursery.com) for complete listings, call 436-3732.

• **PECHAKUCHA NIGHT NO. 17** “Home for the Holidays” at Portsmouth Gas Light Company, 64 Market St., Portsmouth, 430-8582, on Sun., Dec. 29, at 7 p.m. Presenters will share favorite holiday stories. Interested presenters contact Celeste Ladd, [cladd@3Sarts.org](mailto:cladd@3Sarts.org). Visit [3arts.org](http://3arts.org), facebook.com/3Sartspace.

• **ART ‘ROUND TOWN** is held the first Friday of the month (year round) 5-8 p.m. in downtown Portsmouth. Visit [artroundtown.org](http://artroundtown.org). Includes more than 50 resident artists and guest artists, musicians, businesses, food vendors.

• **FIRST THURSDAYS** The Currier Museum of Art is open late, 5:30-7:30 p.m., first Thursday of each month with special programs including live music, lectures and film, at 150 Ash St., Manchester, 669-6144, ext. 108, [currier.org](http://currier.org).

• **THE ANDRES INSTITUTE OF ART** in Brookline offers guided walking and audio tours of its sculpture park and studio. Call 673-8441, or visit [andresinstitute.org](http://andresinstitute.org).

• **GOOD NEIGHBOR SERIES** Sharon Arts Center is hosting a series of cultural programs at its Exhibition Gallery, 30 Grove St., Peterborough, 924-7676, [sharonarts.org](http://sharonarts.org). The series will feature presentations by professional artists on the first and third Saturdays of the

month, 7-9:30 p.m.

• **PICKER ART GALLERY** will host an open studio/meet the artists day on the first Saturday of the month, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., at the Picker Building, 99 Factory St. Extension, Nashua, 305-6256.

• **THE PISCATAQUA DECORATIVE ARTS SOCIETY** presents its 10th season of lectures and events. Visit [pdasociety.org](http://pdasociety.org).

• **ZIMMERMAN HOUSE** open for public tours, leaving from the Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St., Manchester, 669-6144, [currier.org](http://currier.org)). Offered twice daily. Reservations required. Cost is \$8-\$20, includes same-day museum admission.

## Exhibit openings

• **RANDY KNOWLES** art on display at East Colony Fine Art, 55 S. Commercial St., Manchester, 621-7400, through Dec. 28.

• **FAMILIES IN TRANSITION FRIENDS OF ART EXHIBIT** on view at 136 Lowell St., Manchester, on Tues.,

Dec. 17, 4-5 p.m. RSVP by emailing [lbombardier@fitnh.org](mailto:lbombardier@fitnh.org) or by calling 641-1143, ext. 329.

• **BRUSH ART GALLERY’S ANNUAL MEMBERS’ SHOW** with the New England Sculptors Association Dec. 14 through Jan. 11 at The Brush Gallery, 256 Market St., Lowell, 978-459-7819. Reception on Sat., Dec. 14, 2-4 p.m.

• **MARTHA BOSCO** shows “A Little Bit of Everything” at the Amherst Town Library, 14 Main St., Amherst, through mid-January. Reception on Sun., Dec. 15, 2-4 p.m. Email [marthabosco2@gmail.com](mailto:marthabosco2@gmail.com).

• **BRUCE MCCOLL AND MATT BROWN** exhibit at Labelle Winery, Amherst, through Jan. 2014. Reception on Sat., Dec. 21, 1-3 p.m., in conjunction with Christmas Caroling event. Call 672-9898, email [michelle@labellewinerynh.com](mailto:michelle@labellewinerynh.com).

## In the galleries

• **“HOME, SCHOOL, AND STUDIO: WOMEN ARTISTS AND NEW HAMPSHIRE”** at the New Hampshire Historical Society Museum, 6 Eagle Square, Concord, through Dec. 31. Admission \$5.50 for adults, \$3 for children. Visit [nhhistory.org](http://nhhistory.org) or call 228-6688.

• **BIZZART BAZAAR** at 119 Gallery, 119 Chelmsford St., Lowell, on view through Dec. 15.

• **“GOOD THINGS COME IN SMALL PACKAGES”** affordable art sized 10x10 and smaller at Wild Salamander Creative Art Center’s Whitty Gallery, 30 Ash St., Hollis, 465-WILD, on view through Dec. 23. Visit [wildsalamander.com](http://wildsalamander.com).

• **“GOT ART TALENT”** exhib-

it on view at the Mill Brook Gallery & Sculpture Garden, 236 Hopkinton Road, Concord, [themillbrookgallery.com](http://themillbrookgallery.com), 226-2046, through Dec. 24.

• **MERRILL COMEAU** shows “Remains of the Day” at the McIninch Art Gallery at Southern New Hampshire University, 2500 N. River Road Manchester, Oct. 24 through Dec. 14. Call 629-4622, email [m.gallery@snhu.edu](mailto:m.gallery@snhu.edu), visit [snhu.edu](http://snhu.edu), [merrillcomeau.com](http://merrillcomeau.com).

• **“THE CREATIVE MIND APPLIED”** commercial art exhibit at the Gallery at 100 Market St., Portsmouth, Oct. 25 through Jan. 3. Show features two separate “blueprints” that illustrate multi stages of a project.

• **“VISIONS OF EUROPE”** is an exhibition of works inspired through European study, traveling and living, on view at One New Hampshire Ave., Pease Tradeport, Portsmouth, on view now through Dec. 20.

• **“TOMIE DEPAOLA: THEN AND NOW”** exhibit at Colby-Sawyer College in the Sawyer Fine and Performing Arts Center (541 Main St., New London, [colby-sawyer.edu](http://colby-sawyer.edu)) Nov. 7 through Dec. 20. Exhibit coincides with dePaola’s 80th birthday and highlights his career 1975 to present with fine art and book illustrations. Call 526-3000.

• **BOB LARSEN** shows “Still on the Way” at McGowan Fine Art, 10 Hills Ave., Concord, 225-2515, Nov. 19 through Dec. 20.

• **EXETER HOLIDAY ART SHOW** at Old Town Hall (One Front St., Exeter) on view Dec. 5 through Dec. 22. Featuring art



# ARE YOU IN THE WRONG BRAIN?

The Newmarket Mills (55 Main St., Newmarket, bottom floor) is host to its annual Wrong Brain Holiday Bazaar Alternative Craft Fair on Saturday, Dec. 14, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. It’s an event for the nontraditional, unconventional, local, vintage, recycled, handmade and alternative crafts, this year with 30 vendors, a a “sound installation” by Greg Baldi, an art installation by Sylvea Suydam, a pop up art gallery and a zine library reading rug. Visit the event’s Facebook page, [Facebook.com/pages/Wrong-Brain](http://Facebook.com/pages/Wrong-Brain).



# 25 YEARS OF THE NUTCRACKER

Northern Ballet Theatre celebrates its 25th anniversary of *The Nutcracker* with professional sets, handmade costumes, acclaimed guest artists from all over New England and new choreography by Northern Ballet Theatre artistic director Tina Cassidy, according to the press release. Shows are on Saturday, Dec. 21, at 2 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 22, at 2 p.m., at the Keefe Auditorium, 117 Elm St., Nashua. Tickets are \$18-\$22; visit nbtdc.com for details. Courtesy photo.



by Exeter Arts Committee. Visit [exeterarts.org](http://exeterarts.org).

• **"GOOD THINGS COME IN SMALL PACKAGES"** on view at the Whitty Gallery, 30 Ash St., Hollis, [wildsalamander.com](http://wildsalamander.com), 465-WILD, Nov. 15 through Dec. 23. Display of affordable art 10x10 and under.

• **ARTFUL GIVING FOR THE HOLIDAYS** at Mill Brook Gallery & Sculpture Garden, 236 Hopkinton Road, Concord, [themillbrookgallery.com](http://themillbrookgallery.com), 226-2046, through Dec. 24. Paintings, sculpture, jewelry, mobiles, pottery by regional and national artists.

• **"COMING OF AGE: NEW ENGLAND ARTISTS UNDER 30"** on view at the New Hampshire Institute of Art/ Sharon Arts Center Exhibition Gallery at 30 Grove St., Peterborough, Nov. 1 through Dec. 28. Visit [sharonarts.org](http://sharonarts.org), call 914-7676.

• **"WINTER LIGHTS: GIFTS FOR THE HOLIDAYS"** exhibit at The Loading Dock Gallery, 122 W. Ave., Lowell, 978-656-1687, through Dec. 29. Visit [theloadingdockgallery.com](http://theloadingdockgallery.com).

• **"IMAGINE"** works by Elaine Farmer and Michael James Toomy on view at Coffeeberries, 4 Orchard View, Londonderry, through Dec. 31.

• **HOLIDAY SMALL WORKS SHOW** at Lucy's Art Emporium, LLC, 303 Central Ave., Dover, [lucycartemporium.com](http://lucycartemporium.com), Nov. 19 through Dec. 30.

• **PHOTOGRAPHERS FORUM CAMERA CLUB** exhibit at the community room at the Rodgers Memorial Library, 194 Derry Road, Hudson, through December.

• **JIN RWEI** art on display at the Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua, during December. Call 589-4610, email [carol.eyman@nashua.library.org](mailto:carol.eyman@nashua.library.org).

• **KATE LEMAY** presents "The Free-Time Project" at The Studio, 50 Canal St., Laconia, on view through December. Call 455-8008.

• **STUDIO 550 CUP SHOW &**

**SALE** on view at Studio 550, 550 Elm St., Manchester, 232-5597, on view Nov. 9 through Jan. 8. Visit [550arts.com](http://550arts.com), email [info@550arts.com](mailto:info@550arts.com).

• **WOMEN'S CAUCUS FOR ART 6X6 PANEL SHOW** on view Nov. 9 through Jan. 8 at Studio 550, 550 Elm St., Manchester, 232-5597, [info@550arts.com](mailto:info@550arts.com), 550arts.com.

• **"FALL INTO WINTER '13"** at The Gallery at 100 Market St., Portsmouth, Oct. 25 through Jan. 18. First and second floors.

• **NICK MCCARTHY-DONOVAN** shows "Big Wild Cats of Africa; Lions, Leopards and Cheetahs" and "Wolves, Call of the Wild" at Mogi's Hair Salon & Art Gallery, 383 Dunstable Road, Nashua, Nov. 7 through Jan.

• **MARY SWANSON** artwork on display at the Hollis Social Library, 2 Monument Square, Hollis, through Jan. 6. Landscapes, florals, portraits, houses, abstracts.

• **"SMALL, MEDIUM, LARGE"** art show with every size, every price, every style, at Art 3 Gallery, 44 W. Brook St., Manchester, on view Dec. 2 through Jan. 31.

## Classes/workshops/demonstrations

• **CLASSES** for adults, teens and children at White Birch Fine Art (106 Chase Road, Londonderry, 801-0703, [whitebirchfineart.com](http://whitebirchfineart.com)).

• **CITY ARTS NASHUA** [cityartsnashua.org](http://cityartsnashua.org), a central place to buy tickets to the Nashua Symphony and Chamber Orchestra concerts, coffeehouse performances, theater productions, art fundraising events and more. Includes info on non-ticketed events including gallery openings, art exhibits, classes, films, poetry readings and lectures, 589-3070.

• **COLOR AND CABERNET** one-night art classes at Kimball Jenkins (266 N. Main St., Concord). Create masterpieces to take home; bring snack and

drinks. Classes limited to 10 people. Tuition \$40 per session, call 225-3932 or visit [kimballjenkins.com](http://kimballjenkins.com).

• **CURRIER ART CENTER CLASSES** include Creative Painting for Young Artists, Collage for Kids, Still Life Painting in Oil and more. Call 669-6144, visit [currier.org](http://currier.org).

• **DROP-IN CLAY ORNAMENT WORKSHOP** every Saturday 6-8 p.m. in December at Studio 550, 550 Elm St., Manchester, 232-5597, 550arts.com, \$10. All ages, beginners welcome.

• **FAMILY CLAY WORKSHOPS** at Studio 550, 550 Elm St., Manchester, 232-5597, every Saturday 1:30-2:30 p.m., open to all ages. December project Snowman boxes.

• **GOFFSTOWN AREA ARTISTS BREAKFAST** Mondays, 8:30 a.m., at Sawyer's Main Street Breakfast, 13 Main St., Goffstown, [info@goffstown-mainstreet.org](mailto:info@goffstown-mainstreet.org).

• **IKEBANA** Learn the art of Ikebana (Japanese flower arrangement) at Ikebana Flower, 95 W. Pearl St., Nashua, 595-8877. Two-hour classes are held weekly Wed., Thurs. and Fri.

• **INTRO DRAWING: LEARNING TO SEE** at Studio 550 Arts Center (550 Elm St., Manchester) Tuesdays, 6-8 p.m. Representational drawing class to teach students to see in a way that will enhance their drawing. The 10-week class costs \$195. Call 232-5597, email [info@550arts.com](mailto:info@550arts.com) or visit 550arts.com.

• **KAST HILL STUDIO** holds ongoing workshops and events, 195 Kast Hill Road, Hopkinton.

• **MUSE PAINTBAR** 42 Hanover St., Manchester, 421-6500, [musepaintbar.com](http://musepaintbar.com). Two- to three-hour painting lesson. Admission about \$35 per session per person.

• **OIL PAINTING CLASS** Tuesdays, 6:30-9:30 p.m., \$140 for 8 weeks, at East Colony Fine Art, 55 S. Commercial St., Manchester, 669-6994, [eastcolony.com](http://eastcolony.com).

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by sending information to  
listings@hippopress.com at  
least three weeks before  
the event.

# INSIDE/OUTSIDE Vacation camps

Where to send the kids when school's out for the holidays

By Kaitlin Joseph  
kjoseph@hippopress.com

When schools close for the holidays, these winter camps offer plenty of fun activities for kids.

## Culinary Camps

### The Culinary Playground

16 Manning St., Derry, 339-1664,  
[forkidswhocook.com](http://forkidswhocook.com)

**What:** Holiday Gifts from the Kitchen is a day camp where campers will create pampering projects make from kitchen ingredients as well as decorating cupcakes. They will also have a New Years Nibbles day camp, where campers will make quiche, pretzels and breakfast strata to bring home to celebrate with. **Who:** Ages 7 and up. **When:** Dec. 23 from 1 to 4 p.m. and Dec. 30, from 10 a.m. to noon **Cost:** \$48 and \$55. **Contact:** Call or email [kristen@culinary-playground.com](mailto:kristen@culinary-playground.com).

## Science Camps

### Children's Museum of NH

6 Washington St., Dover, 742-2002,  
[childrens-museum.org](http://childrens-museum.org)

**What:** The Children's Museum of NH is offering a one-day camp for kids to build things and do experiments. Kids will create a mini vibrating robot, LED lights and something for an egg drop experiment. There will also be projects with fiber arts and real tools. Kids should wear clothes they can get messy and bring a nut-free lunch. **Who:** Ages 6 to 10. **When:** Friday, Dec. 27, from 9 to 2 p.m. **Cost:** \$50 for nonmembers and \$45 for members.

### Seacoast Science Center

570 Ocean Boulevard, Rye, 436-8043, [seacoastsciencecenter.org](http://seacoastsciencecenter.org).

**What:** Treks 4 Tots Camp and Seaside Safari Camp. Campers will learn about nature and how living in the world affects them. From exhibits to tide pools to scavenger hunts, children will learn about different animals, such as polar bears, sharks and penguins. **Who:** Ages 3½ to 5 and grades 1 through 5. **When:** Dec. 26, 27, 30 and 31, from 9 a.m. to noon or 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. **Cost:** \$55 or \$35 per day.



Kids at last year's Maker's Camp at The Children's Museum of NH. Courtesy photo.

## Sports Camps

### Granite State Lacrosse

New Hampshire Sportsplex, 668  
Technology Drive, Bedford, 641-1313, [granitestatelacrosse.com](http://granitestatelacrosse.com).

**What:** Holiday Shooting and Dodging Clinic for boys will be a two-day event where they will learn techniques and skills to help them with their lacrosse game. **Who:** Boys ages 7 to 17. **When:** Dec. 26 and 27, from 9 to 10:30 a.m. **Cost:** \$75.

### Hampshire Hills

50 Emerson Road, Milford, 673-7123, [hampshirehills.com](http://hampshirehills.com)

**What:** Hampshire Hills offers day camp for kids who can go swimming, play games and do sports activities when they are on winter vacation from school. **Who:** Ages 5 to 17. **When:** Dec. 23, 26, 27, 30 and any snow days, from 8 to 6 p.m. **Cost:** \$55 for nonmember and \$39 for member.

### Pats Peak

686 Flanders Road, Henniker, 428-3245, [patspeak.com](http://patspeak.com)

**What:** Kids can enjoy a three-day camp in December on the slopes skiing or snowboarding. **Who:** Ages 6 to 14. **When:** Dec. 26, 27

and 28, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. **Cost:** \$300, \$396 with rentals and \$240 for pass holders.

### The Works

23 Works Way, Somersworth, 742-2163, [theworkshealthclub.com](http://theworkshealthclub.com).

**What:** The Works Vacation Camp at the Wentworth Douglass Hospital Family Health and Fitness Center has day camps on all school holidays and throughout the winter. They invite kids to come and try basketball, volleyball, tumbling, floor hockey, dodgeball, swimming and other games. Bring a towel, a bathing suit, sneakers and some lunch and make sure to dress for outdoor fun if it's weather permitting. **Who:** Grades kindergarten through 8. **When:** Dec. 13, 23, 24, 26, 27, 30 and 31, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. **Cost:** \$195 weekly

## Activity camps

### Boys & Girls Club of Concord

55 Bradley Street, Concord, 224-1061, [concordkids.org](http://concordkids.org)

**What:** The Boys & Girls Club of Concord is offering a vacation camp for kids including field trips and a variety of activities during the day. **Who:** Ages 5 to 18. **When:** Dec. 23 through Jan. 3, from 7 a.m.

to 6 p.m. Closed on Christmas and New Year's Day. **Cost:** Based on family income, ranges from \$45 to \$105.

### YMCA of Nashua and Merrimack

Nashua, 24 Stadium Drive, 881-7778, and Merrimack, 6 Henry Clay Drive, 882-2011, [nmymca.org](http://nmymca.org)

**What:** The YMCA of Nashua and Merrimack are offering December break camps where kids will be able to swim, do science experiments, play team-building games and other sports and play outside. **Who:** Kids ages 6 to 12. **When:** Dec. 23 through Jan. 1 in Nashua. Dec. 23 through Dec. 27 in Merrimack. Closed Christmas and New Year's Day. **Cost:** A weekly rate is \$273 and a single day is \$66, Merrimack operates on a weekly price of \$273; members get discounts. **Contact:** Randy Menken at 881-7778 or [rmenken@nmymca.org](mailto:rmenken@nmymca.org) at the Merrimack branch or Sarah Sutherland at 882-2011 or [sutherland@nmymca.org](mailto:sutherland@nmymca.org) at the Nashua branch.

### YMCA of Concord

15 State St., Concord, 783-1129, [concordymca.org](http://concordymca.org)

**What:** The YMCA of Concord is offering a two-week vacation camp for the end of December, where



kids can play games, do crafts, watch movies, go rock climbing, play in the snow and go sledding, swimming and ice skating. **Who:** Kindergarten through sixth grade. **When:** Dec. 23 through Jan. 2, from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Closed Christmas and New Year's Day. **Cost:** \$140 per week (\$120 for members).

**YMCA of Manchester**  
30 Mechanic St., Manchester, 623-3558, yogm.org  
**What:** The YMCA of Manchester is offering vacation day camps where kids will be able to play games and sports with others, swim, do creative art projects and play outside in the snow. **Who:** Kindergarten to

eighth grade. **When:** Dec. 23, 26, 27, 30 and 31, from 7 to 6 p.m. **Cost:** Weekly price of \$195 (\$155 for members), or a daily rate of \$45 (\$35 for members).

**YMCA Allard Center of Goffstown**  
116 Goffstown Back Road, Goffstown, 497-4663, yogm.org  
**What:** The YMCA Allard Center of Goffstown is offering vacation day camps where kids will be able to play games and sports with others, swim, do creative art projects and play outside in the snow. **Who:** Kindergarten to eighth grade. **When:** Dec. 23, 26, 27 and 30, from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. **Cost:** \$44 per day with a \$30 registration if not a member already. 🍌

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## KIDDIE — POOL —

Family fun for the weekend

### Breakfast with Santa

The Chester Public Library (3 Chester St., Chester, 887-3404, [chesterlibrary.org](http://chesterlibrary.org)) will have a **breakfast and photos with Santa** event on Sat., Dec. 14, from 8 to 11 a.m. Admission is \$6 or \$25 for a family of 6. Bring your own camera for pictures. The Slusser Senior Center (41 Houston Dr., Hopkinton, [hopkintonrec.com](http://hopkintonrec.com)) will host a **breakfast with Santa** on Sat., Dec. 14, from 8 to 11 a.m. Admission is \$18 for families of four or more, \$5 for 12+, \$3 for 5 to 11 years. Kids 4 and under are free.

The Weare Lions will host a **breakfast with Santa** at the Center Woods Elementary School (14 Center Road, Weare, 529,4500, [wms.weare.k12.nh.us](http://wms.weare.k12.nh.us)) on Sat., Dec. 14, from 8 to 11 a.m. Cost is \$5 per person, \$20 per family. Bring your own camera for photos with Santa. Donate a canned good for the Weare Food Pantry.

The Brookline Women's Club will hold a **breakfast with Santa** on Saturday, Dec. 14, from 8 to 10 a.m. at the Brookline Community Church (14 Main Street, Brookline, 672-0956). Breakfast will include pancakes, sausages, doughnut holes, milk, juice, coffee, tea and hot chocolate. Tickets are \$6 and \$4 for children 12 and under. Call for reservations.

### Families welcome

Families can spend quality time at the Currier Art Museum (150 Ash St., Manchester, 669-6144, [currier.org](http://currier.org)) from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 14. Kids can explore textiles in the **Africa Interweave: Textile Diasporas** exhibit and then try weaving on a cardboard loom that they can take home. Admission for children 12

and younger is always free and free for all New Hampshire residents every Saturday between 10 a.m. and noon.

The Weare Police Department (114 N Stark Hwy, Weare, 529-7755) will hold a **holiday open house** for families on Friday, Dec 13, from 6 to 9 p.m. There will be refreshments, pictures with Santa, face painting and a coloring contest.

### Get crafty

The Children's Museum of NH (6 Washington St., Dover, 742-2002, [childrens-museum.org](http://childrens-museum.org)) will have a **gift making workshop** on Saturday, Dec. 14, from 1 to 1:30 p.m. Children can choose to make painted photo blocks, a hand print paper-mache ornament ball or a pair of wooden ornaments that can be decorated. No reservations are required. \$5 per project, not included museum admission. The museum will also have a **family gingerbread house workshop** on the same day from 9:30 to 2 p.m. An unassembled gingerbread house, icing and candy are all provided. Cost is \$40 for nonmembers and \$30 for members. Registration is not required.

Studio 550 (550 Elm St., Manchester, 232-5597, [550arts.com](http://550arts.com)) will have a **family clay workshop** to make snowman boxes on Saturday, Dec. 14, from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Kids will work with wet clay to make a snowman box. Cost is \$30 for a parent and one child or \$40 for parent with two children. Call to reserve a spot.

### Play time

Cowabunga's (1328 Hooksett Road, Hooksett, 625-8008, [mycowabungas.com](http://mycowabungas.com)) will have a **Friday Night Fun with Spiderman** on Friday, Dec. 13, from 4 to 7 p.m. Admission is \$10 and adults and babies are free. Socks are required to bounce. You are welcomed to bring your own food as long as it is nut-free. Cowabunga's also has pizza, snacks, ice cream and drinks. 🍌



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088154



# Krampus is coming to town

Santa's evil counterpart will haunt you

By Kaitlin Joseph  
kjoseph@hippopress.com

In Europe, St. Nicolas has a dark counterpart named Krampus, whose job is to punish bad children. This year, Krampus is visiting Fright Kingdom.

"You know how the story is: If you're bad you get coal for Christmas," said Tim Dunne, owner of Fright Kingdom. "Well the story used to be that if you're bad, Krampus would take children and put them in a basket and bring them to his lair. He's this demon-like creature, with big horns and a tail, very devilish looking."

For one night before Christmas, Krampus will be at Fright Kingdom, along with

some creepy friends.

"That's the whole premise of the event," Dunne said of the Krampus fable. "We're trying to put a spin on Christmas."

Dunne said the sets for the attractions are made out of salvaged building materials from demolition jobs.

On their way in, visitors will see a castle decorated for Christmas with lights and wreaths. Once they get through the ticket booth, they'll go through Monster Midway, where there will be food, games and some local vendors for people to buy last-minute gifts.

Vendors include O'Neil FX Studios; Shoggoth Studios, which will have silicone masks and body parts; and Makkaroni Art, which will sell purses. Shadows on the Wall will offer entertainment memorabilia and My Pet Roqs will have hand-crafted sculptures. Templar Entertainment will be there to do face painting.

The author of *Ratarra: The Legend of Damien*, Mike Schwartz, will also be at the event to talk about his book.

Aside from vendors, there will be snacks, games and some raffles. A creepy Christ-

mas costume contest will take place at 9 p.m. The winner of the costume contest will receive a prize package courtesy of Fright Kingdom and O'Neil FX Studios.

"It's a little different than what people are used to," Dunne said of the holiday event.

Dunne took a Krampus to the Nashua Holiday Stroll over Thanksgiving weekend to spread the word about the event and pass out flyers.

"Surprisingly, a lot of people said 'Oh, look, there's Krampus!' and wanted to take pictures," Dunne said. "But I'm sure others were like, 'What is this Halloween character doing here?'"

Dunne hopes that will draw people's attention to the event this weekend, as this is the first year he is having this type of event at Fright Kingdom.

"People have done this kind of thing before, but we are the first to do it in New England," Dunne said. "If the reaction is positive and we get a good turnout, we will expand on it for next year."

Attendance of kids 10 years old and younger is not recommended, Dunne said, though he leaves it up the discretion of parents. Regular admission is \$12. VIP

admission is \$25 and includes access to express lines, a free cup of hot cocoa and three game tickets. 🍷



Krampus is coming to Fright Kingdom in Nashua for Fright Before Christmas. Courtesy photo.

**The Fright Before Christmas**

**When:** Saturday, Dec. 14, 6 to 11 p.m.

**Where:** Fright Kingdom, 12 Simon St., Nashua

**Cost:** \$12, VIP \$25

**More info:** Call 978-239-2545, visit [frightb4xmas.com](http://frightb4xmas.com) or find the event on Facebook

**Children & Teens**  
**Events**

• **SANTAS BIG PARTY** Charm-ingfare Farm (774 High St., Can-dia, [visitthefarm.com](http://visitthefarm.com)) will have a party with Santa and all his friends on weekends the entire month of Dec. until the 22. Check in times are from 10 to 1:30 p.m. Admission is \$17.

• **DOLLAR DEAL** Children's Museum of New Hampshire (6 Washington St., Dover, 742-2002, [childrens-museum.org](http://childrens-museum.org)) will have dollar deal nights admission to the museum one Friday in every month starting in Dec. to June. Admission to the museum will be \$1. The first event is Dec. 6, from 5:30 to 8

p.m.

• **ART OF MOVEMENT** Wilton Public Library (7 Forest Road, Wilton, 654-2581, [wiltonlibrary.org](http://wiltonlibrary.org)) will teach children ages 3 to 6 about dancing on Thursday mornings from 10 to 10:45 a.m. The class ends Dec. 19.

• **BUFFALO & TOUGH COOKIE** The Manchester Public Library (405 Pine St., Man-ches-ter, 236-9236, [danszczesny@gmail.com](mailto:danszczesny@gmail.com)) will have Dan Szcz-esny and his 11-year-old ward, Janelle, on hand to talk about Dan's hiking memoir, *The Adventure of Buffalo and Tough Cookie* on Thurs., Dec. 12, at 7 p.m.

• **ELF ON A SHELF** Barnes & Noble (235 Daniel Webster

Hwy., Nashua, 888-0533, [barnesandnoble.com](http://barnesandnoble.com)) will read from *The Elf on the Shelf* on Thurs., Dec., 12 at 10 a.m.

• **MRS. CLAUS** The Meredith Public Library (91 Main St., Mer-edith, 279-4303, [meredithlibrary.org](http://meredithlibrary.org)) will have tot time with Mrs. Claus on Fri., Dec. 13, from 3 to 4:30 p.m. and on Tues., Dec. 17, at 10:30 a.m.

• **SANTA AND FRIENDS PARTY** Hooksett Public Library (31 Mount Saint Marys Way, Hooksett, 485-6092, [hooksetlibrary.org](http://hooksetlibrary.org)) will have Santa and others on Sat., Dec. 14, from 11 to 1 p.m. There will also be food, crafts and games.

• **BREAKFAST WITH SANTA**

Chester Public Library (3 Chester St., Chester, 887-3404, [chesterlibrary.org](http://chesterlibrary.org)) will have a breakfast and photos with Santa event on Sat., Dec. 14, from 8 to 11 a.m. Admission is \$6 or \$25 for a fam-ily of 6.

• **BREAKFAST WITH SANTA** Slusser Senior Center (41 Hous-ton Dr., Hopkinton, [hopkintonrec.com](http://hopkintonrec.com)) will host a breakfast with Santa on Sat., Dec. 14, from 8 to 11 a.m. Admission is \$18 for fam-ilies of four or more, \$5 for 12+, \$3 for 5 to 11 years. Kids 4 and under are free.

• **BREAKFAST WITH SANTA** The Weare Lions will host a breakfast with Santa at the Center Woods Elementary School (14 Center Road, Weare, 529,4500, [wms.weare.k12.nh.us](http://wms.weare.k12.nh.us)) on Sat., Dec. 14, from 8 to 11 a.m. Cost is \$5 per person, \$20 per family.

• **CARDBOARD LOOM** The Currier Art Museum (150 Ash St., Manchester, 669-6144, [currier.org](http://currier.org)) will have a tour of an exhibit featuring Africa Interweave: Textile Diasporas. Families will weave cardboard loom on Sat., Dec. 14, from 10 to 1 p.m.

• **STORYTIME** Chester Public Library (3 Chester St., Chester, [chesterlibrary.com](http://chesterlibrary.com)) will host a storytime on Thurs., Dec. 18, at 6:30 p.m. Kids are welcome to

wear their pajamas.

• **MUSIC WITH JACKIE** The Hollis Public Library (2 Monu-ment Square, Hollis, 465-7721, [hollislibrary.org](http://hollislibrary.org)) will have music with Miss Jackie on Fri., Dec. 20, at 11:30 a.m. The program is for just born and up. Register online or call.

• **SANTA LIVE!** The Londonderry Access Center will have Santa and Mrs. Claus live on Sat., Dec. 21, from 12 to 2 p.m. (281 Mam-moth Road, Londonderry, 4320-1100, [lactv.com](http://lactv.com)). Children will be able to take pictures with Santa.

• **ALL DAY CRAFTS** The Wadleigh Memorial Library (49 Nashua St., Milford, 249-0645, [wadleighlibrary.org](http://wadleighlibrary.org)) will have an all day holiday craft making day for children on Sat., Dec. 21, from 9 to 1 p.m.

• **STORYTIME IN THE GAL-LERY** The Currier Art Museum (150 Ash St., Manchester, 669-6144, [currier.org](http://currier.org)) will have story time on Mon., Dec. 23, at 11:30 p.m. Free with admission to the museum.

• **FISHWAYS OPEN HOUSE** Amoskeag Fishways Learning Center (PO Box 330, Manchester, 626-3474, [amoskeagfishways.org](http://amoskeagfishways.org)) will have its annual thank you open house with two presen-tations, food, and prizes on Dec. 27, from 11 to 3 p.m. This event is free.

• **CRAFTS AND COOKIE**

**ICING** The Hollis Public Library (2 Monument Square, Hol-lis, 465-7721, [hollislibrary.org](http://hollislibrary.org)) will have a Christmas crafts and cookie icing event on Dec. 28, at 6 p.m. No registration required. Ages 3 and up.

• **DAYTIME BALL DROP** The Children's Museum of NH will have a daytime New Year's Eve celebration on Tues., Dec. 31, from 10 to 3 p.m. (6 Washington St., Dover, 742-2002, [childrens-museum.org](http://childrens-museum.org)). Countdowns to midnight will be at 11, 12:30 and 2 p.m. Admission is \$9 per per-son.

• **NOON YEARS EVE** The Currier Art Museum (150 Ash St., Manchester, 669-6144, [currier.org](http://currier.org)) will have a New Year's Eve on Tues., Dec. 31, from 11 to 3 p.m. There will be bubble wrap fireworks, a balloon drop, face painting, ice carving and more.

• **DISNEY ON ICE** Verizon Wireless Arena (555 Elm St., Manchester, 644-5000, [verizon-wirelessarena.com](http://verizon-wirelessarena.com)) will host Dis-ney on Ice's Princesses & Hope on Jan. 15 through the 17, at 7 p.m., Jan 18, at 10:30, 2:30 and 6:30 p.m., and Jan 19, at 11:00 and 3:00p.m. Tickets start at \$22 and are available at [ticketmaster.com](http://ticketmaster.com).

**Teen/tween events**

• **ROCK PAPER SCIS-SORS** The Derryfield School (2108 River Road, Manchester



## PEACE LIGHT FROM BETHLEHEM

The Peace Light from Bethlehem will be vis-iting the Sacred Heart Church (291 Union Ave., Laconia) on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 5 p.m., St. Joseph Church (30 Church St., Laconia) on Sunday, Dec. 15, at 11:45 a.m., and the Bedford Presbyterian Church (4 Church Road, Bedford) on Sunday, Dec. 15, from 6 to 8 p.m. The public is invited to bring an oil lantern or an enclosed candle to share the peace light. Scouts and leaders are asked to wear their uniforms. Visit [peacelight.org](http://peacelight.org).



Dear Donna,  
I have an old 1939 style Keystone Regal 8mm Projector, or at least it looks similar to these, with two World War II movies and some other photos. I am looking to find out how much these items are worth. The projector works great.  
Danielle

Hi Danielle,  
The Keystone MFG Co. has been around since the early 1900s, not too far from here in Boston. It is tough to tell one projector from another; there should be a model number on it that could help you. I am not so sure it would be worth the research, though, because there were so many made and still around today.

I remember watching projector movies when I was young for many family events. So they do have a fond memory for me, but that unfortunately doesn't mean much for the market value.

I think the projector is in the range of \$10 to \$30 if you can find a collector. The movies could be different, if they are of anything really significant from the war period and not just common propaganda. You would have to determine what is on the movies so someone could give you a value.

I wish I had better news for you. Like I said, I have fond memories of projectors and think they do have a neat look just sit-



ting on a bookcase or a table. I hope you can find something to do with yours.

Donna Welch has spent more than 20 years in the antiques and collectibles field and owns From Out Of The Woods Antique Center in Goffstown (fromoutofthewoodsantiques.com). She is an antiques appraiser and instructor. To find out about your antique or collectible, send a clear photo of the object and information about it to Donna Welch, From Out Of The Woods Antique Center, 465 Mast Road, Goffstown, N.H., 03045. Or email her at footwdw@aol.com. Or drop by the shop (call first, 624-8668).

rpsnh2013.webs.com) will host a statewide Rock-Paper-Scissors Tournament on Sat., Dec. 14, beginning at noon. Spectators are welcomed at the tournament featuring the champions sent of each NH middle and high school.

• **YOUNG RESCUERS** The Young Rescuers USA (15 Stark St., Manchester, 296-2222, youngrescuersusa.com) is now accepting applications for a team to represent at the International Rally of Young Fire Fighters and Rescuers in Belarus. Applicants must be ages 13 to 17 years. Apply online or by faxing applications to David Tille at 627-7959 or email DavidTilleNH@gmail.com or Gbruno1@aol.com.

• **TWEEN & TEEN COOKIE COOKOFF** Merrimack Public Library (470 Daniel Webster Hwy., Merrimack, 424-5021, merrimack.lib.nh.us) will have cookie decorating on Tues., Dec. 17, from 4 to 5:30 p.m.

• **TEEN TECH** Derry Public Library will host a technology class on Thursdays on Dec. 19, Jan. 16 and Feb. 13, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. (64 E Broadway, Derry, 432-6140, derrypl.org). Attendees will learn about Hackasaurus and Popcorn Maker. Registration is required.

• **TECHNOLOGY BOOT CAMP** Technology Start-Up Boot Camp (UNH Manchester, 641-4306) is looking for high school aged participants to take part in their new 16-week camp

taught by Tom Kuegler. The class begins Jan. 15. and runs through May 21. Call 641-4385.

**Continued Education**  
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• **MEDICAL OFFICE COURSES** weekly at the Office Technology Training Program in Nashua. Nashua Adult Learning Center, 882-9080, ext. 218, adultlearningcenter.org.  
• **NURSING ASSISTANT PROGRAM** from the American Red Cross, Granite Chapter Office (2 Maitland St., Concord, 225-6697 or 1-800-464-6692), teaches students how to care for residents in long-term facilities/home/hospitals in a licensed nursing assistant eight-week program. Registration



## MEN'S EASY SHOP

The Portsmouth Chamber of Commerce (500 Market St., Portsmouth, 610-5510, portsmouthchamber.org) announced that on Thursday, Dec. 19, until 9 p.m. there will be a men's shopping event in downtown Portsmouth. Different downtown shops will participant in an event to help make shopping stress free.

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# Japanese gardens

## Perfect places for reflecting

By Henry Homeyer  
listings@hippopress.com

I recently visited an old college friend in Seattle, and we went to some nice gardens in the area. The Bloedel Reserve is on Bainbridge Island, a 30-minute ferry ride from downtown Seattle. It is a private 150-acre estate that was once the summer home and gardens of a wealthy Seattle family. The founder’s vision was “to provide refreshment and tranquility in the presence of natural beauty”; the Reserve’s mission is to “enrich people’s lives through a premier public garden of natural and designed Pacific Northwest landscapes.” In my opinion, it meets its goals well.

The best part of the Bloedel Reserve, for me, is the Japanese garden. I have visited several Japanese gardens, and this one is a fine example of the style. It includes a tea house, a dry garden, a small flowing brook that enters a nice pond, large stones, lovely trees and flowers in season. Although I don’t aspire to create a Japanese garden, I recognize that many of the elements that are so attractive in a Japanese garden can be utilized in my own garden — or perhaps yours.

On the surface, at least, the easiest part of the Japanese garden is the dry garden, also called the flat garden or hira-niwa. Generally, in Japanese gardens, this is a space



Water at Bloedel. Photo by Henry Homeyer.

without vegetation — raked sand or fine gravel that is interspersed with stones of various sizes and shapes. To me, the fine gravel represents the sea and the large stones in it, islands. Some Japanese gardens include trees on islands in the dry garden, but this one did not. At Bloedel Reserve, the shape of the dry garden was rectangular, though I have to say I prefer the curves of others I have seen — they seem more natural. It is traditional to rake the sand or gravel regularly to create interesting patterns in it.

If I were to create a dry garden, I would certainly install a weed barrier beneath the gravel. I wouldn’t use plain black plastic — as effective as it is in keeping out weeds, it would hold water. There are a variety of woven weed barriers that allow moisture to pass through, although some grasses and weeds can send roots through them. It’s important to have the dry garden flat.

It would be essential to have some kind of edging to keep grasses from creeping into the dry garden. Plastic edging exists in various forms, like rolls or sections that interlock, but I have never found them easy to install or very effective at keeping out grasses. I like the “professional” edging made of steel or aluminum that comes in 10-foot sections and is held in place with metal pegs. It generally comes with a black painted surface. It is quite flexible, allowing one to create smooth curves, and can be installed using an edging tool or spade to cut through sod. Stone pavers would also work nicely.

Traditionally there is a tea house that overlooks the dry garden, and Bloedel was no exception. This is a place to sit and reflect on the tranquility of the gardens. The tea house has large glass panels on the side facing the dry garden, which create a visual frame for the dry garden from inside.

There are also benches throughout the gardens where one can sit and observe or ponder the state of the world. I think sitting places are important for any garden, and the more comfortable the better. I have two stone benches in my gardens but rarely sit on them for long — the stone is hard and often cold. Wooden benches or chairs are more comfortable. And nowadays, brightly colored Adirondack chairs in recycled plastic are not only comfortable, they are inexpensive — but not very Japanese.

Water is key to a Japanese garden, and traditionally they have both streams and ponds. The technology exists to create re-circulating streams and waterfalls, or to install a nice small plastic-lined pool. Goldfish or koi are an important element to small man-made pools, as they help to keep the water clean. At Bloedel a dry stream was created using stones “flowing” down a hillside.

The vegetation of any Japanese garden is important, too. Japanese red maples (*Acer palmatum*), rhododendrons, cherry trees and various evergreens (particularly weeping evergreens) are commonly used for vertical elements. Weeping red maples stay small and can be very effective in Japanese gardens, but often are not hardy in Zones 3 and 4.

At Bloedel the perennial plants were largely dormant in late November, but I recognized the leaves of hellebores, decorative grasses, ferns, mosses and groundcovers.

It’s good, I think, to dream of garden projects, especially in these dark days of December. And who knows? Maybe I’ll decide to create a small Japanese garden next summer — if you do, let me know, as I’d love to visit it.

*Henry Homeyer is a gardening teacher, coach and public speaker. Reach him at henry.homeyer@comcast.net or P.O. Box 364, Cornish Flat, NH 03746. Please include a stamped envelope if sending a real letter.* 📧

fee is \$50 and course tuition is \$1,200. Must be 16 years old; high school diploma or GED not required.

• **RECIPE FOR SUCCESS** culinary job training program at the NH Food Bank, Manchester, nhfoodbank.org, offers training and experience to unemployed and under-employed adults who wish to obtain jobs in the food service industry. Students earn 260 hours of commercial cooking and food safety skills, resume development and interview techniques. Contact 669-9725.

• **DIGITAL FILMMAKING** The Concord Parks and Recre-

ation Programs (14 Canterbury Road, Concord, 225-8690, concordparksandrec.com) will have a class at ConcordTV about camera and photography skills on Dec. 17, from 6 to 8 p.m.

• **NEWSWRITING** Nackey S. Loeb School (749 East Industrial Park Dr., Manchester, 627-0005, loeb.school.org) is offering a news writing class Wednesdays from Jan.15 to Feb. 19, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. This course is free. Register by phone or online.

• **PHOTOSHOP ELEMENTS** Nackey S. Loeb School (749 East Industrial Park Dr., Manchester, 627-0005, loeb.school.org) is offering a basic photo-

shop class on Wednesdays from Jan.15 to Feb. 19, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Cost is \$50, \$25 for under 18. Register online or by phone.

• **SOCIAL MEDIA** Nackey S. Loeb School (749 East Industrial Park Dr., Manchester, 627-0005, loeb.school.org) is offering a social media class on Wednesdays from Jan.15 to Feb. 19, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. This course is free. Register online or by phone.

### Dance Events

• **BALLROOM DANCE NIGHT** Rockingham Ballroom (22 Ash Swamp Road, New-

market, 659-4410, therockinghamballroom.com) will have a ballroom dance night on Sat., Dec. 14, from 7:30 to 11 p.m. Tickets are \$14. Reservations are suggested.

• **CHRISTMAS BALL** Rockingham Ballroom (22 Ash Swamp Road, Newmarket, 659-4410, therockinghamballroom.com) will have a ball on Sat., Dec. 21, from 7:30 to 11 p.m. Tickets are \$30. Reservations must be made by Dec. 14.

• **CONTRA DANCE** East Concord Community Center (18 Eastman St., Concord, 225-4917, homepage.nhvt.net/dwh/contr.htm) will have a Christmas barn dance on Sat., Dec. 21, from 8 to 11 p.m. Cost is \$7, \$5 for 15 to 25 and under 15 is free.

• **COUNTRY NIGHT** Rockingham Ballroom (22 Ash Swamp Road, Newmarket, 659-4410, therockinghamballroom.com)

will have a country night with DJ Ted Razz on Fri., Dec. 20, from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 at the door.

• **CHRISTMAS EVE OPEN HOUSE** Queen City Ballroom (21 Dow St., Manchester, 622-1500, queencityballroomnh.com) will have an open house on Tues., Dec. 24, at 6 to 9 p.m. Enjoy dancing of all levels and cider. Admission is free.

• **NEWS YEARS EVE PARTY** Rockingham Ballroom (22 Ash Swamp Road, Newmarket, 659-4410, therockinghamballroom.com) will have a dance party for New Years on Tues., Dec. 31, starting at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20.

• **NOT NEW YEAR’S EVE** Queen City Ballroom (21 Dow St., Manchester, 622-1500, queencityballroomnh.com) will have Not a New Year’s Eve dance party on Wed., Jan. 1, from 6 to 9 p.m. There will be a finger food buffet and cocktails. Admission is \$15 and \$20 at the door. Call or email karen@queencityballroomnh.com.

• **ZUMBATHON** Easter Seals NH, (31 Farrwood Dr., Hooksett, 261-6450, nh.easterseals.com/site/) is having a zumba

fundraiser on Sat., Jan. 25, from 9 to 11 a.m. Doors will open at 8 a.m. for registration.

### Miscellaneous Holiday support

• **WEBSTER HOUSE** (135 Webster St., Manchester, 622-8013, websterhousesnh.org), a home for boys and girls is asking for donations to help cover the day to day expenses. They would also like donations such as vacuums, rakes, shovels, or paint to keep up with repairs. Volunteers are always welcome

### Fundraisers/auctions

• **FOOD DRIVE** YMCA of Greater Nashua (24 Stadium Dr., Nashua, 882-2011, nymymca.org) is holding a food drive for Nashua Soup Kitchen and Mer-rimack Food Pantry throughout the month of December. A canned food item will waive a signup fee for membership.

• **WARM HANDS WARM HEARTS** Cardea Center (390 Portsmouth Ave., Greenland, 433-2023, cardeacenterforwomen.org) is collecting mittens and blankets for Cross Roads House this year for their Warm Hands, Warm Hearts Campaign until



## LADIES NIGHT OUT

The Portsmouth Chamber of Commerce announced that downtown Portsmouth (500 Market St., Portsmouth, 610-5510, portsmouthchamber.org) will have a ladies holiday shopping night on Thursday, Dec. 12, until 9 p.m. Throughout the day different downtown local shops will participate in the ladies shopping even with drawings and chocolate goodies.



# Homes for the holidays

Tour of historic houses during Christmas in Amherst

By Kaitlin Joseph  
kjoseph@hippopress.com

If you've ever wanted to stroll through one of Amherst's historic houses, this weekend will be a good time to do it.

Six houses will be decked out for the holidays during the sixth annual Christmas in Amherst Village House Tour.

"We have had five previous tours and 30 different houses. This year we have five new houses and one that was on the first tour 10 years ago," Susan Spiess of the house tour committee said.

Each of the six homes will be extravagantly decorated for Christmas by its homeowners, along with some help from professional local florists.

"The decorations reflect the period of the house and the owners' personal style," Spiess said.

"In most cases the tour is of the first floor of the home. In a few instances, it includes the second floor."

Inside each home are elegant flower arrangements created by local florists: Amherst Garden Center and Flower Shop, The Garden Party, PJ's Flowers and Antiques and Rodney C. Woodman Florists. There is also artwork from Marianne Stillwagon.

"We look for a variety of antique homes in the village that differ in style, history and stature. They are occupied by families of various sizes and ages," Spiess said.

The tour will offer the history of each home and commentary on how difficult it is to preserve its natural character as well as modernizing it to live in. Katrina Holman was able to provide historical research about each of the homes.



Decorations at a previous Amherst Village House Tour. Courtesy photo.

"The tour booklet includes historically accurate information about each house," Spiess said. "Katrina Holman is our historian who is passionate about the research of houses in the Historic District, and she has helped us develop the descriptions of each house for both the booklet and for the tour itself. There are docents in each room on the tour who will explain the interesting facts to the tour goers."

The homes are all within walking distance, but there are vans to use that will be available at the Wilkins Elementary School parking lot.

There will also be a raffle drawing at the tour. On the day of the event, tickets for the raffle can be purchased at the Congregational Church of Amherst, which sponsors the house tour. Tickets are six for \$5; you do not need to be present to win the prize. Some prizes include a gift certificate for a total kitchen design by Barbara Coulter of Hollis, which is valued at \$1,500; \$100 gift certificates to the Mile Away Restaurant, Barnes & Noble, Gap, Old Navy, Banana Republic, LL Bean, Land's End, Macy's and Sports Authority; and a \$50 gift certificate to Applebee's.

"It's been really successful in the past," Spiess said. "It's really a great tradition for Amherst."

## Christmas In Amherst

**When:** Saturday, Dec. 14

**Time:** 10 to 4 p.m.

**Where:** 11 Church St., Amherst Village Green

**Cost:** \$30 in advance, \$40 day of; tickets can be purchased at 673-3231 ext. 10 or [ccamherst.org/cav](http://ccamherst.org/cav).

Dec. 23.

• **CELEBRATE 50 YEARS** Beaver Brook Association (117 Ridge Road, Hollis, 465-7787, [beaverbrook.org](http://beaverbrook.org)) is celebrating their 50 year anniversary at LaBelle Winery on Wed., Jan. 15, from 6 to 9 p.m. Ticket is \$69.

## Expos/festivals/fairs

• **MEN'S SHOP EASY** Portsmouth Chamber of Commerce

(500 Market St., Portsmouth, 610-5510, [portsmouthchamber.org](http://portsmouthchamber.org)) announced that different downtown stores will participant in an event for men to help make shopping stress free on Dec. 19 until 9 p.m.

## Holiday events

• **FESTIVAL OF TREES** James A. Tuttle Library (45 Main St., Antrim, [antrimfestivaloftrees.org](http://antrimfestivaloftrees.org)) will host the festival of trees

through Jan. 4 on Mondays and Wednesdays from 2 to 6 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2 to 8 p.m., Friday from 9 to 12 p.m. and Saturday from 10 to 4 p.m. This event is free.

• **VINTAGE CHRISTMAS TROLLEY** Downtown Portsmouth (28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 766-2192, [vintagechristmasnh.org](http://vintagechristmasnh.org)) will have trolley rides on Sat., Dec. 14, Sun., Dec. 15, Sat., Dec. 21 and Sun., Dec.

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# Gentle driving increases life of car



Dear Tom and Ray:

I am Kunaal from Mumbai, India, and I am a big fan of your show and column. I own a 2011 Skoda Fabia diesel hatchback that has covered 38,000 kilometers here, or 23,612 miles in your speak. Now, I know this car might not exist in America, but I quite love it. I am a car enthusiast and love my car and want it to last forever. It's a turbo diesel 3-cylinder engine that makes about 79 horsepower. Now, that's not a tarmac-tearing output, but in Mumbai, we have crazy, pothole-ridden roads and slow, bumper-to-bumper traffic most times, so the performance is good enough for use in the city. Every day when I start my car, I idle it for 30-60 seconds before driving off. And even after I start driving, I drive it slowly at first, without starting the AC for the first kilometer or two. The idea behind this is to minimize any damage to the turbo-charger

and engine during its warmup phase. At the end of the day, I repeat the same exercise in reverse: I switch off the AC a kilometer or so before stopping, and get all the cold air out of the vents with only the fan running. I then idle the car for about 30-60 seconds before shutting down for the day. My question: Am I being overly obsessive? Will these things help increase the life of the car, or am I just wasting precious time and fuel? — Kunaal

TOM: Are you being overly obsessive? Yes. Will any of these things increase the life of your car? Unlikely. But on the plus side, you're doing wonderful things for India's diesel-fuel industry, Kunaal! I'm sure it's grateful.

RAY: Modern cars really don't need to be warmed up unless the temperature is well below freezing. Then 30-60 seconds of idling is fine. But generally speaking, if the car starts and doesn't stall when you put it in gear, it's ready to go. And driving it gently is the best way to warm it up.

TOM: Plus, I think the average daytime temperature in Mumbai is around 90 degrees Fahrenheit year-round. So if you're starting your car, and the outside temperature is well below freezing, you've got bigger problems to worry about — like how your roses are going to survive the oncoming ice age.

RAY: For cars with turbos, it's actually not a bad idea to let them idle for 30-60 seconds after driving the car hard. When

there's a lot of demand on the turbo, it heats up. And allowing the oil to circulate through it for an extra minute or so allows it to cool down, which is beneficial.

TOM: But it sounds like you're hardly using the turbo, Kunaal. If you're in bumper-to-bumper traffic, that turbo probably is not kicking in at all. In which case, allowing it to cool off is completely unnecessary.

RAY: Turning off the air conditioner is hardly worth it, either. It does reduce the load on the engine a little bit, which means you use less fuel. But it makes very little to no difference in the life of the engine.

TOM: And besides, you have to think of the unintended consequences of what you're doing.

RAY: For instance, if you refuse to use the AC, you'll sweat more, which could send your dry-cleaning bills through the roof, putting a big dent in your beer budget, Kunaal. So be careful!

TOM: The best thing you can do to increase the life of your car is to simply drive it gently. Based on how much you obviously love the car, I'm guessing you already do that. And that's great.

RAY: That's what you should concentrate on, Kunaal. Avoid jackrabbit starts, sudden, hard acceleration and last-second braking when possible. Steer around a big, ugly pothole if you can do it safely. But otherwise, just enjoy the car — and the air conditioning. Happy motoring.

Dear Tom and Ray:

The rear window of my 2000 Ford F-150 leaks from the top. Can I just have the seal/molding replaced, or should I have the whole window redone? And if so, can I use a window I find at the junkyard? — Deb

TOM: Well, if you want the cheap solution, Deb, get one of those sailor's rain hats, with the flap that goes down the back of your neck. That'll at least keep the rain from running down your shirt and into your shorts.

RAY: But a better solution would be to replace the weatherstripping. Unless the glass is cracked, there shouldn't be any need to replace the window itself.

TOM: But to replace the weatherstripping, the window has to be removed. So you just need to go to a mechanic or an auto-glass shop and tell them you want the window reinstalled with new weatherstripping.

RAY: They'll pop it out, replace the old, dried-out, cracked weatherstripping with fresh new stuff, and put your window back in. If you're right, and that's where the water is coming from, that should take care of it.

TOM: And you definitely want new weatherstripping. It's fine to get rear-window glass at a junkyard if you ever need it, but there's no reason to buy old weatherstripping.

RAY: And besides, when you're driving a 13-year-old truck, you really can't risk parking at a junkyard. It's just too easy for your truck to be mistaken for fresh "inventory." 🍌

Visit [cartalk.com](http://cartalk.com).

22, from 1:30 to 10:30 p.m. The route is 15 minutes long.

- **CANDLELIGHT STROLL** Downtown Portsmouth (28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 766-2192, [vintagechristmasnh.org](http://vintagechristmasnh.org)) will have a stroll at Strawberry Bank on Sat., Dec. 14 and Sat., Dec. 21, from 5 to 9 p.m., and on Sun., Dec. 15 and Sun., Dec. 22, from 4 to 8 p.m.
- **LADIES HOLIDAY SHOPPING** Portsmouth Chamber of Commerce (500 Market St., Portsmouth, 610-5510, [portsmouthchamber.org](http://portsmouthchamber.org)) announced

that different downtown stores will participate in an event for ladies shopping with drawings and chocolate goodies on Dec. 12 until 9 p.m.

- **FREE GIFT WRAPPING** The Barley House (132 North Main St., Concord, 228-6363, [thebarleyhouse.com](http://thebarleyhouse.com)) will have a free gift wrapping event on Thurs., Dec. 12, from 1 to 4 p.m.
- **OPEN HOUSE** The Weare Police Department (114 N Stark Hwy, Weare, 529-7755) will hold a holiday open house on Fri., Dec. 13, from 6 to 9 p.m.

There will be refreshments, pictures with Santa, face painting and a coloring contest.

- **HOLIDAY SHOPPING TOUR** Warner Town Hall will have a holiday shopping tour on Sat., Dec. 14, from 10 to 4 p.m. (5 E Main St., Warner, 456-3362, [warner.nh.us](http://warner.nh.us)). There will be artisans as well as food.
- **COOKIE WALK** First Congregational Church (15 Lawrence Road, Salem, 893-3421, [fcc-salem.org](http://fcc-salem.org)) will have a Cookie Walk on Sat., Dec. 14, from 10 to 1 p.m. There will be

a variety of treats.

- **CHRISTMAS IN AMHERST** Congregational Church of Amherst (11 Church St., Amherst, 673-3231, [ccamherst.org](http://ccamherst.org)) will host Christmas in Amherst Village: A Tour of Six Historic Houses on Dec. 14, from 10 to 4 p.m. Tickets are \$30 in advance and \$40 on the day of. Tickets can be purchased online or by phone.
- **CHRISTMAS CAROLING** Brookside Congregational Church (2013 Elm St., Manchester, 669-2807, [brooksidecc.org](http://brooksidecc.org)) will have caroling at the New Horizons in Manchester on Sun., Dec. 15. Carolers should meet at the Brookside Choir Room at 4 p.m.
- **CANDLELIGHT SERVICE** The Chapel of St. Peter and St. Paul (325 Pleasant St., Concord) will have a candlelight service on Sun., Dec. 15, at 5 p.m. The Chapel Choir of St. Paul's School will present the festival of lessons and carols.
- **PEACE LIGHT FROM BETHLEHEM** will be visiting Sacred Heart Church (291 Union Ave., Laconia) on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 5 p.m., St.

- Joseph Church (30 Church St., Laconia) on Sunday, Dec. 15, at 11:45 a.m., and Bedford Presbyterian Church (4 Church Road, Bedford) on Sunday, Dec. 15, from 6 to 8 p.m. The public is invited to bring an oil lantern or enclosed candle to share the peace light. Scouts and leaders are asked to wear their uniforms. See [peacelight.org](http://peacelight.org).
- **LIVE NATIVITY** The Middle Street Baptist Church (18 Court St., Portsmouth, 436-2337, [middlestreetbaptist.org](http://middlestreetbaptist.org)) will host a live nativity on Sat., Dec. 14, at 3:30 p.m. Admission is free.
- **LIGHTS ON THE HILL** Candia (High St., Candia, 483-0506, [candiacongregational.org](http://candiacongregational.org)) will celebrate Christmas with the annual Lights on the Hill on Sat., Dec. 14 and 15, from 4 to 8 p.m. Admission is free but asks for donation of hats, gloves or socks.
- **HOLIDAY STORYTIME** Pollard Memorial Library (401 Merrimack St., Lowell, 978-674-4120, [pollardnl.org](http://pollardnl.org)) will host a holiday storytime on Tues., Dec. 17, at 10:30 a.m.
- **HOLIDAY STORIES** Wilton Public Library (7 Forest Road,

Wilton, 654-2581, [wiltonlibrary.org](http://wiltonlibrary.org)) will host a stories night on Wed., Dec. 18, at 7 p.m. for people to enjoy stories and holiday treats.

- **CAROLING** The Rye Public Library (581 Washington Road, Rye, 964-8401, [ryepubliclibrary.org](http://ryepubliclibrary.org)) will have a caroling event on Fri., Dec. 20, from 4 to 5 p.m. Refreshments will be available.
- **LOVE CAME DOWN** The New Beginnings AG Church (130, Conant St., Manchester, [newbeginningsmanchester.com](http://newbeginningsmanchester.com)) will have a Christmas concert and candle light service on Sat., Dec. 21, at 6 p.m. This event is free and refreshments will be served.
- **CHRISTMAS AT BROOKSIDE** Brookside Congregational Church (2013 Elm St., Manchester, 669-2807, [brooksidecc.org](http://brooksidecc.org)) will have their choir perform at their 4<sup>th</sup> annual Christmas at Brookside on Dec. 21, at 3 p.m. At 2:30 p.m. there will be cookies and cocoa. This event is free.
- **CHRISTMAS EVE** The Milford Oval (Downtown Milford) will have a Christmas Eve event on Tues., Dec. 24, from 6:30 to



## LIVE NATIVITY

The Middle Street Baptist Church (18 Court St., Portsmouth, 436-2337, [middlestreetbaptist.org](http://middlestreetbaptist.org)) will host a live nativity event on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 3:30 p.m. and again at 4:30 p.m. Admission for this event is free. The Majesty of the Christmas Manger will include live stable animals and Christmas carols. There will also be refreshments. Each show is 20 minutes long.





## ALL THE COOKIES YOU CAN EAT

The first Congregational Church of Salem (15 Lawrence Road, Salem, 893-3421, fcc-salem.org) will host a Cookie Walk on Saturday, Dec. 14, from 10 to 1 p.m. There will be a wide variety of homemade cookies to try as well as some crafters there to help you shop. Proceeds will go toward helping the missions and the ministry of the church.

7:30 p.m. There will be caroling and refreshments.

• **GUIDED HOUSE TOUR** Downtown Portsmouth (28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 766-2192, vintagechristmasnh.org) will have a guided house tour at Strawberry Banke from Dec. 26 to 30, from 10 to 2 p.m.

### Nature

#### Animals/insects

• **WINTER HAWKS AND OWLS** Amoskeag Fishways Learning Center (PO Box 330, Manchester, 626-3474, amoskeagfishways.org) will present a family program about winter hawks and owls on Dec. 20, from 7 to 8 p.m. Registration is required by phone with a payment of \$5 per family.

• **ACTIVE WINTER ANIMALS** The Amoskeag Fishways Learning Center (4 Fletcher St., Manchester, 626-3474, amoskeagfishways.org) will have a preschool program about animals in the winter on Jan. 9, from 9:30 to 11 or 12:30 to 2 p.m. Cost is \$8 per family, registration is required.

• **UNDERSTANDING BOBCATS** The Nature Cafe at Massabesic (26 Deerneck Road, Auburn, 668-2045, nhandubon.org) will have talk about bobcats on Fri., Jan. 10, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Following the presentation will be desserts and coffee, tea and hot chocolate. Cost is \$5 per person.

• **TRACKING NH ANIMALS** The Nature Cafe at Massabesic (26 Deerneck Road, Auburn, 668-2045, nhandubon.org) will have a presentation and a walk about tracking NH animals on Sat., Jan. 25, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. and on Sat., Feb. 8, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Cost is \$7 member or \$9 non-member, or families are \$15 member or \$20 non-member.

• **HOOVED IN NEW HAMPSHIRE** The Amoskeag Fishways Learning Center (4 Fletcher St., Manchester, 626-3474, amoskeagfishways.org) will have a family presentation about deer and moose on Jan. 31, from 7 to 8 p.m. Cost is \$5 per family, registration is required.

• **TIPS AND TRICKS TO TRACKING** The Nature Cafe at Massabesic (26 Deerneck Road, Auburn, 668-2045, nhandubon.org) will have a presentation about tracking in winter months on Fri., Feb. 7, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. There will be refreshments. Cost is \$5 per person.

• **SNAKE AND RAVEN FEEDING** at Massabesic Audubon Center (26 Audubon Way, Auburn) every Sunday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Watch the center's ball python and raven as they are fed. The snake feeding is at 11:30 a.m. and the raven feeding is at 12:30 p.m. Call 668-2045 or visit nhandubon.org.

• **EVOLUTION OF BALEEN WHALES EXHIBITION** at the Seacoast Science Center (570 Ocean Blvd., Rye, 436-8043, ext. 12). Learn about humpback whales' ancient ancestors. Exhibition includes a life-sized model of Ambulocetus, the first whale ancestor, a video and three new toothed-whale skeletons.

• **OTTER ENRICHMENT** at Squam Lakes Natural Science Center (23 Science Center Road, Holderness) every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, at 11:30 a.m. Learn about river otters and watch as a live otter eats. Admission is \$15 (\$12 for ages 65+, \$10 for ages 3-15, free for 2 and younger). Call 968-7194 or visit www.nhnature.org.

• **TURTLE TALK** at the Squam Lakes Natural Science Center (23 Science Center Road, Holderness) every Tuesday, 11:30 a.m.-noon. Each turtle talk will feature a live turtle. Call 968-7194 or visit nhnature.org.

• **UP CLOSE TO ANIMALS** at the Squam Lakes Natural Science Center (23 Science Center Road, Holderness) every Saturday and Sunday, noon and 2 p.m. Take a close look at a variety of live animals and learn about them from a naturalist. These presentations are part of the regular trail admission. Registration is not required. Call 968-7194 or visit nhnature.org.

### Birds

• **WHY BIRDS COUNT** The Nashua Public Library will host a talk about why birds count on Wed., Dec. 18, at 7 p.m. (2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4600, nashualibrary.org). The talk is free and registration is not required.

• **CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT** The Nashaway Chapter of the New Hampshire Audubon Society will have a bird count on Sat., Dec. 28. (84 Silk Farm Road, Concord, 224-9909, nhandubon.org/locations/chapters/nashaway). Contact Richard Bielawski at 429-2537 to attend. Visit nhandubon.org/birding/christmas-bird-count.

• **BALD EAGLES** The Amoskeag Fishways Learning Center (4 Fletcher St., Manchester, 626-3474, amoskeagfishways.org) will have a presentation about bald eagles on Jan. 17, from 7 to 8 p.m. Cost is \$5 per family, registration is required.

• **EAGLES ALONG MERRIMACK** The Amoskeag Fishways Learning Center (4 Fletcher St., Manchester, 626-3474, amoskeagfishways.org) will have an eagle watching program for all ages on Jan. 18, from 10 to noon. Cost is \$3 per person or \$5 per family. Registration is required.

• **WINTER IS FOR THE BIRDS** The Amoskeag Fishways Learning Center (4 Fletcher St., Manchester, 626-3474, amoskeagfishways.org) will have a preschool presentation about winter birds on Jan. 23, from 9:30 to 11 or 12:30 to 2 p.m. Cost is \$8 per family, registration is required.

### Astronomy

• **EVENING SKY OBSERVERS** at the Lawrence Barn (28 Depot Road, Hollis) on the fourth Thursday of every month, 8:30 p.m. There will be a telescope available, but visitors are welcome to bring their own. Call 465-7721.

### Gardening/farming

• **ORCHID LOVE AFFAIR** New Hampshire Orchid Society will have their Orchid Love Affair show and sale on Fri., Feb.

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# Merry market

Sixty vendors at Manchester Downtown Holiday Market



Manchester Downtown Holiday Market. Courtesy photo.

By Kaitlin Joseph  
kjoseph@hippopress.com

If you still need to find gifts this season, the Manchester Downtown Holiday Market has something for everyone on your list. The market got underway last Thursday, Dec. 5, and will be up and running three more times before Christmas.

Sara Beaudry, director of marketing for Intown Manchester, said she hopes that people will travel downtown to shop for gifts.

“Our goal is to enhance all of shopping downtown,” Beaudry said. “A lot of people say, ‘Oh, there needs to be more shopping downtown,’ and we’re really trying to take that concept and build on it. ... [This market is] really convenient.”

Held in the lobby of the Brady Sullivan building, the holiday market will host 60 booths this year with local artisans and craftsmen. The market will feature handmade items such as jewelry and quilts, and food samples.

In its third year the market has more vendors than in previous years. Some

VENDORS		
Altered Egos	Paintings	New Leaf Botanicals
Amanda Home Adornments	Hemlock Spring Cottage	Orao Designs
Amoskeag Textile Club	J.L. Sweets	One of a Kind
Austrian Christmas Tree	Just Be Product	Original Artwork by Tina
Bavarian Decoration Art	Karen Bessette	Ring Namer
Breads and Bits	Kit Reno Oatmeals	Sharon's Granola
Berkshire Gold	KRM Chocolates	Shop Estella
Creator and Designer	Krystal Klear Cloth	Soul Fire Message
Craquelins	Laurel Hill Jams and Jelly	Sue Lavigne
Cucina Aurora	Lee Parmenter	Suss Sweets
Design Forty Four	Life's Little Pleasures	The Bakeshop on Kelley
Doug Hockman Photography	Lilly Bea Quilts	Street
Dumbass Gifts/603 Tees	Linda Feinberg Artist	The Cozy Tea Court
Fine Wine Designs	Merribecc Sterling and Stone	The Painted Pausy
Frost This	My Dolly's Closet	Theresa Caulkins
Gunther's Goodies	NH Accents Fine Crafts	Three Daughter's Jewelry
Gisele Thompson Acrylic	NHIA	Wooden Virtual Pets

local businesses at the market will include Studio 550 and the Manchester Historic Association. Kit Reno Oatmeals will be there with homemade oatmeal and gluten-free oatmeal. Tina Gagnon will sell her hand-painted artwork. Fine Line Designs will have fancy wine bags and corks. Laurel Hill Jams and Jellies will be selling homemade products, and Gunther's Goodies will sell homemade dog treats. There will be stocking stuffers and gifts for children too.

“It's a really great group of people,”

Beaudry said of the vendor lineup.

Santa and his elves will also be at the market for those who would like to take pictures. Live music will be provided throughout the days of the market as well.

In previous years the market did not have a sponsor; this year, AARP is sponsoring the event.

“They really are a fantastic partner,” Beaudry said. “They'll be there handing out bags to shop with, and they'll have some giveaways.” 🍎

## Manchester Downtown Holiday Market

**Where:** Brady Sullivan Plaza, Downtown Manchester

**When:** Thursdays, Dec. 12 and Dec. 19, and Saturday, Dec. 14.

**Times:** 10 to 5:30 p.m. and 9 to 2 p.m.

**Visit:** [intownmanchester.org](http://intownmanchester.org).

14, from 1 to 7 p.m., Sat., Feb. 15, from 9 to 5 p.m. and Sun., Feb. 16, from 9 to 4 p.m. at the Radisson Hotel (11 Tara Blvd., Nashua, 888-9970, [Radisson.com/nhorchilds2014](http://Radisson.com/nhorchilds2014)). Admission is \$10, under 12 is free.

• **NORTHEAST ORGANIC FARMING ASSOCIATION OF NH** (224-5022, [nofanh.org](http://nofanh.org)) offers workshops and classes on gardening and farming. Call 224-5022 or email [info@nofanh.org](mailto:info@nofanh.org).

• **SEED LIBRARY** at the Pelham Public Library (24 Village Green, Pelham). Seeds will be available at the library for check out. Patrons are encouraged to return seeds from the plant to the library at the end of the season. Call 635-7581 or visit [pelhampubliclibrary.org](http://pelhampubliclibrary.org).

• **UNH COOPERATIVE EXTENSION** (877-398-4769, [extension.unh.edu](http://extension.unh.edu)) offers classes on landscaping, gardening and amateur forestry. See website for schedule. The Cooperative Extension's Family, Home and Garden Center also has an information line to offer answers to garden questions Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Wednesdays from 5 to 7:30 p.m.

## Gardening/farming clubs

• **GARDENING FOR PEACE** at Herbal Living (242 Gen. Miller Hwy., Temple, 878-

0459, [herbanlivingbandb.com](http://herbanlivingbandb.com)) on Tuesdays from 8 a.m. to noon.

• **GOFFSTOWN COMMUNITY GARDEN CLUB** holds meetings on the first Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at Mountain View Middle School (41 Lauren Lane, Goffstown). Visit [gardencentral.org/nhfgc/gcgc](http://gardencentral.org/nhfgc/gcgc).

• **GRANITE STATE AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY** meets first Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. (except January and July) at the Marion Gerrish Community Center, 39 Broadway, Derry, and holds regular workshops, plant and leaf sales, and swaps. New members and visitors welcome; call 887-3154.

• **HAMPSTEAD GARDEN CLUB** holds meetings on the

third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Hampstead Congregational Church (61 Main St., Hampstead). Visit [hampsteadgarden.org](http://hampsteadgarden.org).

• **HOOKSETT GARDEN CLUB** is holding programs open to the public at the Hooksett Public Library (1701B Hooksett Road, Hooksett) on the last Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. Visit [nhclubs.esiteasp.com/hooksett-gardenclub](http://nhclubs.esiteasp.com/hooksett-gardenclub).

• **MANCHESTER NH GARDEN CLUB** meets at Manchester City Library (405 Pine St., Manchester) on the third Thursday of the months of September through December and March through May. No gardening experience needed to join. See [manchesternhgardenclub.org](http://manchesternhgardenclub.org).



## GET FIT TO END HUNGER

Get Fit NH of Epsom (287 South Main St., Concord, 344-2651, [getfitnhbootcamp.com](http://getfitnhbootcamp.com)) is presenting the first ever Fun Friday Challenge to Help End Hunger. For the month of December, Get Fit NH clients or coaches can create their own exercise challenge and find a sponsor to complete that challenge in hopes of donating food. A person may donate one canned food item for every minute an exercise is completed. To get involved call 344-2651 or email Nancy Carlson at [nancy@getfitnh.com](mailto:nancy@getfitnh.com).

visitors are welcome.

• **NH ROSE SOCIETY** ([newhampshirerosesociety.org](http://newhampshirerosesociety.org)) meets at locations in southern NH, including Bedford Library.

• **OPECHEE GARDEN CLUB** is online at [opecheegardenclub.com](http://opecheegardenclub.com).

• **TEACHING GARDEN** at the Massabesic Audubon Center (26 Audubon Way, Auburn) provides an opportunity for afterschool youth groups to help in growing produce. The food grown in the garden is donated to participants and the New Hampshire Food Bank. Visitors are welcome Monday through Sunday. Call 641-6060 or visit [extension.unh.edu/COUNTIES/Hillsboro/4-HChildrensTeachingGarden.htm](http://extension.unh.edu/COUNTIES/Hillsboro/4-HChildrensTeachingGarden.htm).

## Hiking, hikes & walks

• **BUFFALO & TOUGH COOKIE** The Manchester Public Library (405 Pine St., Manchester, 236-9236, [danszczesny@gmail.com](mailto:danszczesny@gmail.com)) will have Dan Szczesny and his 11-year-old ward, Janelle, on hand to talk about Dan's hiking memoir, *The Adventure of Buffalo and Tough Cookie* on Thurs., Dec. 12, at 7 p.m.

• **JOURNEY TO THE ROOF OF AFRICA** The Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4610, [nashualibrary.org](http://nashualibrary.org)) will host Peter Christoph will talk about his hike up Mt.

Kilimanjaro on Thurs., Jan. 23 at 7p.m. This talk is free and there is no registration.

• **WINTER WALK** at the Hinman Pond Preserve (Hooksett) will offer a winter walk on Feb., 22, from 1 to 3:30 p.m. The walk will be an exploration lead by Bear-Paw volunteer, Frank Mitchell. If the conditions are suitable, bring snowshoes or skis.

• **FITNESS HIKING** offered by the Beaver Brook Association will run through April. Mondays 9-11 a.m. for moderate (2-2.5 miles per hour) and Fridays 9-11 a.m. for moderately fast (2.5-3 miles per hour). Snowshoes and crampons provided in winter. Registration required. Call 465-7787.

• **WINTER TRAIL ADVENTURES** The Concord Parks and Recreation Programs (14 Canterbury Road, Concord, 225-8690, [concordparksandrec.com](http://concordparksandrec.com)) will have 6 different trails to hike or snowshoe. All ages and fitness levels welcome.

• **NATURE JOURNALING** at Beaver Brook Nature Center, 117 Ridge Road in Hollis, [beaverbrook.org](http://beaverbrook.org), the third Sunday of each month from 10:30 a.m. to noon. Bring backpack and smooth paper journal and wear sturdy walking shoes; dress for the weather. Classes cost \$15 per class; register at 465-7787.

• **NATURE WALKS** Join NH





# DANCE NIGHT

The Rockingham Ballroom will have a few dance nights in December. On Saturday, Dec. 14, the ballroom will host a Ballroom Dance Night complete with live music from Triloggy. Doors will open at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$14 a person. Reservations are suggested. On Wednesday, Dec. 18, there will be a beginner and intermediate line dance and couples dance lesson with Gail Eaton from 6:15 to 10 p.m.

Cost is \$8 per lesson or \$10 for both. There will also be a country night with DJ Ted Razz from 7:30 to

11:30 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 20. Tickets are \$10 at the door. Snacks are available.

Audubon's Nashaway Chapter for morning adventure walks at Ponemah Bog in Amherst. Bring binoculars and bug spray, and wear shoes you don't mind getting wet. Free and open to the public. The entrance to the bog is on Rhodora Drive, off Stearns Road, which runs between Boston Post Road and Route 122, just north of Route 101A in Amherst. Contact Jack Gleason at 673-3177 or jgleason10@netzero.net. Visit [nhaudubon.org/sanctuary\\_amhe.php](http://nhaudubon.org/sanctuary_amhe.php).

• **SQUAM LAKES NATURAL SCIENCE CENTER** (23 Science Center Road, Holderness). Trail hours are 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and admission is \$15 for adults, \$12 for ages 65 and older, \$10 for ages 3 to 15 and free to 2 and younger. Call 968-7194; visit [nhnature.org](http://nhnature.org).

## Outdoors

• **CLIMATE ADAPTATION** McConnell Center (61 Locust St., Dover, [steincr@mit.edu](mailto:steincr@mit.edu), [mit.edu](http://mit.edu)) will host a workshop about climate adaptation on Thurs., Dec. 19, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Dinner will be provided and the workshop is free to attend. Please RSVP in email.

• **BLIND HIKER** The Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4610, [nashualibrary.org](http://nashualibrary.org)) will have a talk with Randy Pierce, a blind hiker, on Thurs., Jan 2, at 7 p.m., where Pierce will talk about "Reaching Our Peak Potential."

• **AUDUBON CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION** New Hampshire Audubon (84 Silk Farm Road, Concord, 224-9909, [nhaudubon.org](http://nhaudubon.org)) will be celebrating their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary on Feb. 15 with earth day celebration and a series of programs.

• **GPS RENTALS** every Saturday and Sunday, from noon to 4 p.m., at Peabody Mill Environmental Center in Amherst. Cost is \$10.

• **LONDONDERRY TRAILWAYS** nonprofit organization staffed by volunteers working to make Londonderry more accessible to pedestrians and bicycles. The group improves and main-

tains trail systems throughout 900+ acres of conservation land within the town of Londonderry. Visit [londonderrytrails.org](http://londonderrytrails.org).

• **MANCHESTER CEDAR SWAMP** conservatory area on Hackett Hill Road in Manchester offers a 602-acre ecological preserve with established trails. Follow Hackett Hill Road to Countryside Boulevard and watch for the trailhead.

• **MCLANE CENTER** (84 Silk Farm Road, Concord, 224-9909, [newhampshireaudubon.org](http://newhampshireaudubon.org)) offers trails for hiking and searching out wildlife.

• **PRIMITIVE SKILLS WORKSHOP** is offered on the third weekend of every month at MyoFu An Dojo, 159 Savage Road, Milford, taught by a master tracker from Tom Brown School with 25 years of experience. Includes training in basic survival skills such as finding and making emergency shelter, making fire, purifying water and gathering food. Call 785-6440.

• **WHITE PARK POND** (Washington and White streets in Concord, [onconcord.com/recre](http://onconcord.com/recre)) offers a tree trail. See map online.

## Boating

• **BOATING EDUCATION CLASSES** offered by the State Police and Marine Patrol in Concord and Windham. Completion of one of this classes is required for a license to operate a motorboat over 25 horsepower. Cost is \$30. Call 267-7256 or visit [boatingeducation.nh.gov](http://boatingeducation.nh.gov) for class locations and dates.

• **LAKEFEST 2014** Endicott Rock Park (Laconia) will host a Guinness Rematch in Aug. 2014 to try to get the Guinness World Record for largest free floating raft of canoes and kayaks.

## Nature photography/art

• **NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP** Massabesic (26 Deerneck Road, Auburn, 668-2045, [nhaudubon.org](http://nhaudubon.org)) will have a nature photography workshop on Saturdays, Feb. 8, 15 and 22, from 12 to 4 p.m. Cost is \$120 member or \$150 non-member

for all. Visit [usaaloft.com/courses](http://usaaloft.com/courses).

• **NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY** Nacey S. Loeb School (749 East Industrial Park Dr., Manchester, 627-0005, [loebsschool.org](http://loebsschool.org)) is offering a nature photography class on May 3 from 9 to 3 p.m. Cost is \$50. Register online or by phone.

• **MASSABESIC AUDUBON CENTER** (26 Audubon Way, Auburn, 668-2045, [nhaudubon.org](http://nhaudubon.org)) occasionally offers classes on nature photography and nature writing.

• **OUTDOOR DIGITAL PHOTO CLASSES** at Silver Hills Studio from 9 a.m. to noon on the second Saturday of every month. Learn to take quality photographs with a digital camera through classroom introduction and 2 hours of hands-on shooting in the natural landscape followed by constructive critique. Cost is \$25. To sign up, visit [silverhillsstudio.com](http://silverhillsstudio.com) or call 497-4674.

## Over 50 Social activities

• **CHRISTMAS SOCIAL** The NH Retired Men's Association will have a Christmas Social for new and current members on Dec. 17. Bring an inexpensive gift for a yankee swap. Call Tom at 965-3573 or [tomtarnolad@att.net](mailto:tomtarnolad@att.net). Visit [nhretiredmen.org](http://nhretiredmen.org).

• **ART ALLIANCE OF NORTHERN NH** provides workshops for seniors. Call 837-2275 or [eileen@aannh.org](mailto:eileen@aannh.org). Visit [aannh.org](http://aannh.org).

• **BENTLEY COMMONS** (66 Hawthorne Drive, Bedford, [bentleycommons.com/bedford](http://bentleycommons.com/bedford), 644-2200) is an assisted living community offering activities and events. Visit its website for a full calendar of events.

• **CENTENNIAL SENIOR CENTER** (West St. Ward House, 41 West St., Concord, 228-6830, [info@centennialseniorcenter.org](http://info@centennialseniorcenter.org)) offers meet and greet, card games, bingo and other activities. Open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 9 a.m.-noon.



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## News from the local food scene

• **Distilling something new:** Djinn Distillery held its grand opening on Saturday, Dec. 7, in Nashua with distillery tours and tastings. The spirits are kosher and include products like Beat 3 White Dog and a soon-to-be-released Distilled Gin. Visit [djinnspirits.com](http://djinnspirits.com).

• **Santa stops for breakfast:** It's a busy time of year for Kris Kringle, but the jolly man still has to eat. He'll be visiting the Chester Municipal Center (84 Chester St., Chester) to join a breakfast hosted by the Friends of Chester Library from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Dec. 14. Admission costs \$6 per person and includes breakfast, family photos with Santa, crafts, games, holiday stories and raffles. See [chesterlibrary.com](http://chesterlibrary.com). Then, St. Nick will be stopping for seconds at the Slusser Senior Center (41 Houston Drive, Hopkinton) on Saturday, Dec. 14, from 8 to 11 a.m. Admission costs \$5 for adults, \$3 for kids ages 4 to 11, and kids under 4 receive free admission. Proceeds from the breakfast benefit Operation Christmas in Hopkinton. See [hopkintonrec.com](http://hopkintonrec.com). Then, on Sunday, Dec. 15, from 9 to 11 a.m., Santa will be visiting the Bedford Village Inn (2 Olde Bedford Way, Bedford) for the first time. There's a breakfast buffet, omelet and waffle station, a chocolate fountain and a pastry table, and Santa will read a story. Kids can decorate gingerbread cookies and get a photo with Santa. Reservations are required for the breakfast, which costs \$18 for children 10 and under, and \$25 for adults (not including tax and gratuity). Call 472-2001, or visit [bedfordvillageinn.com](http://bedfordvillageinn.com).

• **A party to give back:** Milly's Tavern (500 Commercial St., Manchester, 625-4444, [millystavern.com](http://millystavern.com)) is giving back during its annual holiday bash. The 11th annual holiday party for New Horizons for New Hampshire includes live music and a silent auction. The holiday party is on Saturday, Dec. 21, at 7 p.m. at Milly's Tavern, and guests are invited to bring clothing and canned good donations.

• **Noel to go:** Plan ahead for that Christmas party and place orders now. Angela's Pasta & Cheese Shop (815 Chestnut St., 49 ▶

# FOOD

## Peppermint party

### Festive flavor with health benefits

By Emelia Attridge  
[food@hippopress.com](mailto:food@hippopress.com)

There's no shortage of pumpkin during the fall, and the same can be said about peppermint during the holidays. Between candy canes, peppermint mochas and hot cocoa, peppermint bark, peppermint patties and peppermint stick ice cream, there's a lot of minty goodness to go around.

Peppermint is traditional for good reason.

"Peppermint as an herb is probably our main classic as a digestive product and a nausea relief," clinical herbalist and health journalist Maria Noël Groves said. "Even eating the candy will provide some benefit."

Peppermint helps with gas, bloating and pain (though Groves did note that peppermint can aggravate acid reflux).

"One of the other neat things of peppermint is [its effects] when we inhale it," Groves said. "The scent and aroma of peppermint is great at perking us up, making us more energized. ... The downside of course is that peppermint can be overloaded with sugar, and sugar has its disadvantages."

Peppermint is a hybrid mint, and doesn't grow true to seed, Groves said. It's a cross between spearmint and watermint. The same goes for chocolate mint, a variety of peppermint.

"It's almost identical," Groves said about chocolate mint. "There's almost a hint of chocolate so it's almost like you're eating an Andes candy or maybe a peppermint patty."

So when exactly did peppermint become such a popular flavoring during the holidays? It's always been used in medicines, and Pep-O-Mint was the first LifeSavers flavor. Legend says a choirmaster handed out candy cane suckers, which resembled a shepherd's crook, to young children to quiet them during a Christmas concert, according to *Christmas Legends to Remember* by Helen Haidle.

Although sucking on a peppermint candy after a meal might relieve some digestive symptoms, Groves said hot peppermint tea works best. She recommends using peppermint tea as a base for hot cocoa or adding peppermint schnapps to cocoa for grown-ups.

"Peppermint and other mints are really revered around the world as teas," she said. "There are only a couple plants that have made their way to everyday use for teas."

The Cozy Tea Cart in Brookline has herbal organic peppermint, choco mint, organic Moroccan mint and a green tea with peppermint and spearmint available.

There's a Moroccan peppermint green tea at A&E Coffee Roastery in Amherst, and the roastery also makes peppermint flavored



*Peppermint is just such a fun holiday herb. It's both common and there's something a little extra special about it during the holiday season*

MARIA NOËL GROVES



Kyle Heavey, sales associate at Granite State Candy Shoppe in Manchester, shows off some of the sweet peppermint goodies in stock. Emelia Attridge photo.

lattes and mochas.

At J. Dubs Coffee in Manchester, peppermint can be added to pretty much anything. Owner Jim Whitney said that he makes a peppermint bark coffee or latte, with dark chocolate and peppermint, "which is pretty popular when the temperature drops," he said. Whitney also carries peppermint tea, and J. Dubs baristas have been experimenting with white chocolate peppermint mochas and lattes. They use a peppermint syrup for the flavoring.

"Hot cocoa with peppermint is pretty popular," Whitney said. "When it gets closer to Christmas, I throw a candy cane in my chocolate smoothies and I blend it up. You get little tiny chunks in there."

Whitney also adds peppermint to whipped cream when it gets closer to Christmas.

"Definitely a lot of things are flavored, and

they tend to be flavored artificially. However, peppermint flavoring is easy to make," Groves said about the peppermint trends. "Most of the flavoring is in the menthol compound in peppermint. It's not that uncommon that peppermint products are flavored naturally."

For sweet treats, there are always peppermint candies and candy canes at local chocolate and candy shops (like Van Otis in Manchester and Granite State Candy Shoppe in Manchester and Concord). The bakery at Black Forest Cafe in Amherst currently has mint chocolate thumbprint cookies and chocolate mint baby cakes. In the bakery and dining room it's serving Jack Frost (a white chocolate peppermint hot cocoa).

"Peppermint is just such a fun holiday herb," Groves said. "It's both common and there's something a little extra special about it during the holiday season." 🍬

### Candy Cane Whoopie Pies

From The Farmers' Almanac December 2012

1 cup all-purpose flour  
1/4 cup cocoa  
1 teaspoon baking soda  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
3/4 cup and 2 tablespoons milk  
1 teaspoon vanilla extract  
3/4 cup unsalted butter  
1/2 cup brown sugar  
1 egg  
1/4 teaspoon peppermint extract  
2 cups powdered sugar  
12 large candy canes, crushed

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a bowl, sift together flour, cocoa, baking soda and salt. Set aside. In a measuring cup, stir together 3/4 cup milk and vanilla. Set aside.

Using electric mixer, cream together brown sugar and 1/4 cup of butter. Add egg and reduce speed to low. Add about a quarter of the combined dry ingredients and a third of milk mixture and beat together. Repeat until all ingredients are thoroughly mixed and a smooth batter forms. Using a tablespoon, portion out mounds of batter, spaced 2 inches apart, on parchment-lined cookie sheets. Bake 11 minutes. Transfer baked shells to wire rack.

Using a mixer, whip together 1/2 cup of butter until fluffy. Add peppermint extract and 2 tablespoons milk. With mixer on low, gradually add powdered sugar. Beat until fluffy. Fold 1/4 cup crushed candy canes into filling. Using level tablespoons, top half of the shells with icing, then add a second shell to create a sandwich. Spread the filling to the edges of each. Roll the edges of each whoopie pie in the remaining crushed candy canes and serve. Dust with powdered sugar if desired.

### Correction

In the Dec. 5 Hippo, the story "Latte throwdowns" said beer is donated for purchase at monthly Thursday Night Throwdown latte competitions. Alcohol is not served at any of the participating cafes, nor is it available for purchase during the Throwdown competitions.



# Get into the holiday 'spirit'

Local bartenders share what's popular for the holidays

By Emelia Attridge  
food@hippobpress.com

There's another kind of gingerbread to enjoy this year, and it comes in a martini glass.

This December, bartenders are finding inspiration from classic holiday ingredients like ginger, peppermint and of course, eggnog.

"The new one that I'm doing, which people are loving, is the 'Oh, Snap,'" Cotton Restaurant co-owner Christine "Peaches" Paige said. "It's made with Snap, a spirit from New Age Spirits with molasses and ginger, [and] Vermont Ice Maple Crème liqueur [and is] served in a martini glass with graham cracker crust."

Paige said that there are a few types of mixed drinks customers can look for at the bar if they want to celebrate the season. Mixed drinks with festive ingredients, bourbon and champagne with fruit are all popular, she said.

"I have one that I do with eggnog," she said. "I use the Jim Beam Red Stag Cinnamon Spiced Bourbon with eggnog and sprinkled with nutmeg. It's a great drink."

Another seasonal martini at Cotton is the Royal Godiva. It's made with vodka, Chambord and Godiva Dark Chocolate Liqueur topped with fresh raspberries.

"I tend to put a couple bourbon drinks on for winter," Paige said. "But definitely this time

of year they're looking for the darker spir- its with more gusto in them. I take a lot of the rum drinks off, and the fruity drinks off."

On the other hand, adding fresh fruit or fruit-flavored vodkas (like raspberry or peach) to champagne is another popular choice for the holidays, Paige said.

Vicky Marino has been a bartender at Martha's Exchange in Nashua for five years, and she agreed that popular drinks this time of year are always either festive or warm.

"A huge seller during our winter season is our peppermint stick martini," Marino said. "It's a very good, festive drink."

It's made with Godiva White Chocolate Liqueur, vanilla, crème de menthe, Peppermint Mocha Kahlúa, grenadine and crushed candy canes. There is also a Gingerbread Martini at Martha's Exchange, made with

St. Germaine Ginger liqueur.

It's not on the menu at Martha's Exchange, but Marino noted that one of her favorite mixed drinks to make at home is eggnog with caramel flavored vodka on the rocks sprinkled with nutmeg on top.

"We sell a lot of coffee drinks," Marino said. "Add whipped cream and you have Christmas in a glass."

Irish coffees are another favorite at The Barley House in Concord, bar manager Brad Corbett said.

"We actually use fresh cream from local dairy too on the top of it, and Tullamore Dew Irish whiskey," he said.

As the temperature drops, customers are ordering drinks that will warm them up.

"This time of year a lot of the higher-alcohol bourbons and ryes tend to be popular just because of the warming effect," Corbett said. "They have a specific profile to them which seems to go over quite well during the warmer climate."

Currently, The Barley House has a signature barrel-aged whiskey-based Manhattan. The rye whiskey is aged for six to seven weeks in an oak barrel, then combined with bit- ters, a sweet vermouth with rye for a smooth and sweet flavor. "The rye whiskey tends to be a bit spicy," Corbett said.

"This time of year a lot of whiskeys are big, even just on the rocks or straight up," Corbett said. "A lot of people will be sipping on things. ... They're looking for a bit

of the bite."

Another featured seasonal drink on the menu is the Winterberry Martini made with Uncle Val's Botanical Gin, with Chambord, pineapple juice and fresh thyme.

"It kind of gives it a wetness, but also a floral, botanical, herby taste at the end with the thyme," Corbett said.

Although pumpkin beers are always popular, Corbett said stouts and porters are high in demand this time of year. They also have Widmer Brothers' Brrr Seasonal Ale. Brrr is made with pale, caramel and dark chocolate malts, and has a deep red body with citrusy notes.

"It's different than a lot of other winter warmers," Corbett said. "It doesn't have nutmeg, like a cinnamon spice, like the other winter warmers do." ❄️



Check out the new *Cotton Cocktail* recipe book, which includes holiday drink recipes from Cotton Restaurant in Manchester. Courtesy photo.

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## FOOD

# Taking tea in Brookline

The Cozy Tea Cart goes festive for December



Enjoy Earl Grey truffles, tea sandwiches and other treats during The Cozy Tea Cart's Holiday Tea. Courtesy photo.

By Emelia Attridge  
[food@hippopress.com](mailto:food@hippopress.com)

Take tea with an author, accompanied by a harp, or by joining the Red Hat Society. Once a month, The Cozy Tea Cart transforms as owner Danielle Beaudette prepares themed afternoon teas.

"I always look forward to them because I really enjoy setting the mood, setting the room, making it look special," Beaudette said. "When they see the tables all set with china and the tablecloths they get really excited and we hear a lot of 'oohs and ahs.'"

Each month there's a different theme with special decorations, entertainment, centerpieces and menus inspired by the theme. In the past, Beaudette has offered a Victorian Afternoon Tea, a Back to School Afternoon Tea and a Literary Afternoon Tea. This month, it's a Holiday Afternoon Tea with a Celtic harpist performing Christmas tunes.

"We just do it once a month, because we're trying to fill that niche," she said. "I don't know of other places that do afternoon teas in New Hampshire."

The menu for the Holiday Tea includes tea breads like sauteed mushrooms on toast, cinnamon bread with apple spread and orange poppy seed scones served with devonshire cream; tea sandwiches (smoked salmon or pear and walnut); a selection of teas; and pastries, like pumpkin fudge, Earl Grey truffles and vanilla bean and chocolate mousse cheesecakes.

Everything on the menu is served on silver

three-tier trays, and some treats are plated separately, like the cheesecakes. Beaudette said that it's not exactly the typical dainty afternoon snack — it's more like a meal.

"Most places when you go to afternoon tea, you only get one [snack]," she said. "Ours, I just keep filling the trays and nobody ever leaves here hungry."

Teas for the Holiday Tea include White Christmas (a Bai Mu Dan white tea blended with almonds, vanilla, white camomile flavor and cardamom), Almond Snowflake (an Indian and China black tea blend, with almond flakes, some cinnamon and coconut flakes) and, for the herbal tea, Golden Caramel Cream, a rooibos base blended with caramel pieces.

Tea is served from 1:15 to 1:30 p.m., but guests can arrive at 1 p.m. and stay until 3 p.m. Attire is business casual, but Beaudette said that some guests do like to dress up.

"I've never seen anyone come with gloves on, but we do have some that wear hats," she said. "Believe it or not, I get a lot of people that call and say, 'Do we have to wear a hat?' No, you don't have to wear a hat." 🍵

### Holiday Afternoon Tea

**When:** Sunday, Dec. 15, from 1 to 3 p.m.

**Where:** The Cozy Tea Cart Shoppe and Cafe, 104 Route 13, Brookline

**Cost:** \$29.95 per person, advance reservations required

**Visit:** [thecozyteacart.com](http://thecozyteacart.com) or call 249-9111

### Food Lectures/author events/ festivals/fairs

• **GINGERBREAD HOUSE CONTEST** At Discover Portsmouth (10 Middle St., Portsmouth, 436-8433, [portsmouth-history.org](http://portsmouth-history.org)) as a part of the

city's Vintage Christmas programming. Exhibit runs through Mon., Dec. 23, on weekdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., weekends from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Call 436-8433.

• **JINGLE BELL BASH** Thurs., Dec. 12, from 6 to 8 p.m.

at the Concord Food Co-op (24 S. Main St., Concord, 225-6840, [concordfoodcoop.coop](http://concordfoodcoop.coop)). Food, drink and live music. Advance tickets only, which can be purchased at the cashier (\$15 general admission, \$10 for co-op members).



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# IN THE KITCHEN WITH MARTÍN DELGADILLO

Martín Delgadillo is the owner and chef of Consuelo's Taqueria Restaurant (36 Amherst St., Manchester, 622-1134, [consuelostaqueria.com](http://consuelostaqueria.com)). Delgadillo was born in Mexico City and has 11 brothers and sisters. Growing up, his mother would teach Delgadillo and his siblings how to cook, and Consuelo's Taqueria is named after Delgadillo's mother. His family also owned a tortilleria (a Mexican sandwich shop), which was his gateway to the restaurant business. His sister still manages the tortilleria in Mexico. Now, Delgadillo is running his own authentic Mexican restaurant in Manchester.



**What is your must-have kitchen item?**

Because I cook Mexican food, it's got to be the chilies. There's no other way we can really make Mexican food without the chilies. Sometimes people misunderstand with a chili, they think it's always a hot pepper. We have a huge variety of chilies and we put it in as a flavor. Some are hot, of course, and some of them it's just the flavor, the color. We have about 50 kinds.

**What would you choose for your last meal?**

I love fish. I think a good fish would be a great meal for me.

**Favorite restaurant besides your own?**

I like Thai food. I go to one, it's Lakorn Thai on South Main Street. It's on the West Side [of Manchester]. I got invited once and I fell in love about 15 years ago.

**What celebrity would you like to see eating at your restaurant?**

An actual celebrity? I love Salma Hayek, and she likes Mexican food. She's a very well-known girl who likes Mexican food.

**What is the biggest food trend in New Hampshire right now?**

I think everybody's starting to be more healthy. ... Many people are vegan [and] I don't know if it's a trend or to be fashionable, but I think people are trying to eat more healthy.

**What is your favorite meal to cook at home?**

Because I don't eat meat now, it's always good veggies — vegetables and fish. That's what I really like. I like shrimp. I stir-fry a lot of vegetables. Try to get a little bit of vinegar, soy, and stir in clams, shrimp, fish.

**What is your favorite dish on your restaurant's menu?**

The chicken mole enchiladas with black beans and rice, that's my favorite. And that's because it reminds me of when I was a kid, my mom, my grandma, my aunts — big celebrations in Mexico they make a great mole sauce. You go to a funeral it's always mole. You go to a big party it's always mole. ... And plus, to cook mole is serious — if you cook it from scratch it's hard to do and a long time doing it.

— Emelia Attridge



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**17TH ANNUAL INN TO INN COOKIE AND CANDY TOUR** Sat., Dec. 14, and Sun., Dec. 15, at 13 inns in the Mount Washington Valley. Two-night packages, breakfast and tour tickets also available. Tickets

must be reserved in advance. Call 800-338-1356 or visit [countrysidewithinthewhittemountains.com](http://countrysidewithinthewhittemountains.com).

**FARM & FOOD FILM** Screening and discussion on *Hungry for Change* Mon., Dec. 16, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at A Market (125 Loring St., Manchester, 668-2650, [myamarket.com](http://myamarket.com)).

**NEW ENGLAND VEGETABLE AND FRUIT CONFERENCE** Tues., Dec. 17, through Thurs., Dec. 19, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Radisson Hotel, 700 Elm St., Manchester. Cost \$105. Trade show with over 100 exhibitors, discussions and speakers. See [newenglandvfc.org](http://newenglandvfc.org).

**OPEN CUPBOARD** Holiday open house at Cucina Aurora Kitchen Witchery (Suite 1, 9 Delaware Dr., Salem, 458-6368, [cucinaaurora.com](http://cucinaaurora.com)) on Wed.,

Dec. 18, from 3 to 8 p.m.

**HOLIDAY PARTY FOR NEW HORIZONS** 11th annual holiday bash at Milly's Tavern (500 Commercial St., Manchester, 625-4444, [millystavern.com](http://millystavern.com)) on Sat., Dec. 21, at 7 p.m.; benefits New Horizons. Tickets cost \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door. Includes live music and silent auction. Clothing or food donations will be collected.

**NEW YEARS EVE SAMPLING** On Sat., Dec. 28, from 1 to 5 p.m. at The Fresh Market (79 S. River Road, Bedford, 626-3420, [thefreshmarket.com](http://thefreshmarket.com)), includes party platters, appetizers, deli and produce samples.

## Chef events/special meals

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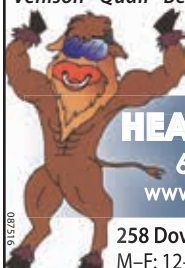


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# COOKBOOK THROWDOWN

By Amy Diaz



### The Four & Twenty Blackbirds Pie Book

by Emily Elsen & Melissa Elsen (2013, Grand Central Life & Style)



### Perfect Pies & More

by Michele Stuart (2013, Ballantine Books)

**The goal:** To pit two vaguely related cookbooks against each other and arbitrarily declare a champion.

**The competitors:** 'tis the season to pie.

**Battleground:**

## PECAN PIE

### The Four & Twenty Blackbirds Pie Book

**The cookbook:** Like all things foodie these days, this book comes by way of Brooklyn, where the Elsen sisters have a pie and coffee shop. Arranged by season, this book starts by spending a fair amount of time on the crust — which is good because a crust, while seldom the star, can screw up or augment whatever is happening in the center. The recipes are what you'd expect from a pie shop in foodie paradise: Strawberry Balsamic Pie and Farmer Cheese with Thyme Pie in spring, Black and Blueberry Upside Down Pie and Paprika Peach Pie in summer, Bourbon Pear Crumble Pie and Brown Butter Pumpkin Pie in fall, and Cranberry Sage Pie and Green Chili Chocolate Pie in winter.

**The recipe:** "Malted Chocolate Pecan Pie" on page 188.

### Perfect Pies & More

**The cookbook:** Also kicking off with crust discussion, *Perfect Pies* (by a pie shop owner in Connecticut) is organized by pie types (fruit, cream, nut, etc.) and includes (as implied by the *& More*) recipes for cookies, bars and other pastries. Pies include White Chocolate Raspberry

Swirl Pie, Orange Creamsicle Pie, Peach-Strawberry Crumb Pie and Lime Pie with Coconut Macadamia Crust. "*& More*" includes Double Chocolate Bundt Cake, Apple Walnut Squares, Anise Biscotti and Raspberry Linzer Cookies.

**The recipe:** "Maple Pecan Pie" on page 91.

**The result:** Both of these pies required a special syrup — a barley malt syrup for the Malted Chocolate and grade B maple syrup for the Maple Pecan. (Both syrups, as it turned out, were available at the A Market in Manchester.) Neither is a one-step, mix-and-dump pie — the maple syrup needed to be reduced on the stove to concentrate the flavor; the Malted Chocolate required melting said chocolate, roasting the pecans and pre-baking the crust. The crust in particular was tricky in both cases — I've become accustomed to a very user-friendly food-processor crust recipe from the Cook's Illustrated universe. Here, both wanted hand-mixing of the crust and both turned out oddly mushy before they went into the refrigerator to set and were then challenging to work with during the roll-out period.

**The winner**

## IT'S A PIE TIE!

In the end, both books resulted in pies that — at least on the scale of pies I've personally made — earn a not-too-shabby grade of "B." The Malted Chocolate had a good flavor and a perfect consistency and mouthfeel but the crust was hard and flavorless. The Maple Pecan was excellent in flavor for both the crust and the pie itself but the consistency was off — the crust crumbled the minute I cut it and the pie itself never quite set right. For both books, the recipes and explanation of techniques are clear and detailed but, then again, even the best teacher of theoretical physics is still teaching theoretical physics. Pies, especially pies like these, aren't idiot-proof endeavors (I suspect if I gave the respective crusts another shot I could improve their quality, and experience now tells me that the Maple Pecan needs longer in the oven even if all signs point to doneness). Both books are solid additions to the baker's bookshelf.



## Weekly Dish

Continued from page 42

Manchester, 625-9544, angelaspastaandcheese.com) is taking orders for Christmas desserts until Wednesday, Dec. 18, including items like Snowball or Blue Christmas cakes, Yule Logs, Italian butter, Greek and Russian Tea cookies, dessert pies (like chocolate cream, ricotta pie, lemon meringue, pumpkin and custard pies), cannolis and gluten- and sugar-free dessert items. Washington Street Catering (88 Washington St., Concord, 228-2000, washingtonstreetcatering.com) is taking orders from its holiday catering menu, which includes package dinners (like roasted turkey, with stuffing, mashed potatoes and butternut squash, or maple glazed ham with roasted root vegetables and mashed sweet potatoes, or beef Wellington or rosemary and garlic marinated rack of lamb dinner), or a la carte options, including meats, like turkey, beef Wellington, ham or lamb, mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce, sauteed green beans with slivered almonds, caramelized pearl onions and potato gratin, to name a few. Orders should be placed with 48-hour notice at Washington Street Catering. Know of other restaurants and businesses catering for the holidays, or taking reservations for Christmas or New Year's? Let us know at food@hippopress.com.

• **Rioting in the new year:** Cask & Vine (1½ E. Broadway, Derry, 965-3454, caskandvine.com) is celebrating its first anniversary on New Year's Eve, Tuesday, Dec. 31, starting at 8 p.m. The "Booze Up & Riot" party celebrates the new year, both 2014 and Cask & Vine's second year on East Broadway. The menu features appetizers like crab and saffron bisque and Maine lobster and goat cheese strudel, with pan seared swordfish, roast beef tenderloin and artichoke, boursin and leek stuffed chicken for entrées. Cheesecake with caramel sauce and almond brittle or a chocolate bombe are the choices for dessert. The draft list includes White Birch Brewing, Allagash Brewing Company, Goose Island and Founders Brewing Company. Cask & Vine will also be introducing a new program called Tap 13 in 2014, which features a trip to local establishments one Saturday a month, like a tour, with a special pour from the thirteenth tap at Cask & Vine.

• **Sampling 2014:** Sample some treats on Saturday, Dec. 28, with a New Year's Eve Sampling at The Fresh Market (79 S. River Road, Bedford, 626-3420, thefreshmarket.com). From 1 to 5 p.m., samples of party platters, appetizers, deli and produce will help customers to plan for their New Year's bash. 🍷

Road, Manchester, 629-4608, snhu.edu) on Thurs., Dec. 12. Cost \$35. Reservations required.

• **NOFA-NH ANNUAL POTLUCK** Thurs., Dec. 12, from 6 to 9 p.m. at NH Audubon, 84 Silk Farm Road, Concord for NOFA-NH members potluck dinner. When making your recipe, include all the ingredients on a card; use as many organic and local ingredients as possible. RSVP by emailing eleanor@nofanh.org. See nofanh.org.

• **MOTHER DAUGHTER TEA** Sat., Dec. 14, at Bedford Village Inn (2 Olde Bedford Way, Bedford, 472-2001, bedfordvillageinn.com). Cost \$34 for adult, \$29 for children ages 4 to 10. Reservations required.

• **MORE THE MERRIER HOLIDAY PARTY** Sat., Dec. 14, from 6 to 11 p.m. at Brookstone Park, 14 Route 111, Derry. Includes dinner, magic show from Boston's Bonaparte, dancing and DJ. Cost \$59 per person (tax and gratuity included). Call 628-9255 to reserve a table.

• **BREAKFAST WITH SANTA** Sun., Dec. 15, from 9 to 11 a.m. at Bedford Village Inn (2 Olde Bedford Way, Bedford, 472-2001, bedfordvillageinn.com), includes breakfast buffet, omelette and waffle stations, gingerbread cookie decorating, story time and photos with Santa. Cost \$18 for children ages 10 and under, and \$25 for

adults. Reservations required.

• **FEAST OF THE SEVEN FISHES** Sun., Dec. 15, at 4 p.m. at Pasquale's Ristorante (143 Raymond Road, Candia, 587-0028, pasqualeincandia.com). Call for reservations.

• **DICKENS OF A CHRISTMAS** Dinner theater show with three-course meal at The Old Salt Restaurant (490 Lafayette Road, Hampton) on Wed., Dec. 18, and Thurs., Dec. 19. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the show starts at 6:30 p.m. Cost \$39.

• **CONCORD FOOD CO-OP BRUNCH** The Co-op's Celery Stick Café (24 S. Main St., Concord, 410-3099, concordfoodcoop.coop) offers a brunch buffet every Sun., 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Build-your-own omelet station.

• **CELIAC & GLUTEN INTOLERANCE SUPPORT GROUP** Meets monthly from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Merrimack Public Library (470 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack, merrimack.lib.nh.us) Includes discussion, demonstration and sample. See royaltemptations.com/blog.

### Christmas Dinners

• **12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS** Dinner on Sat., Dec. 14, at Stages at One Washington (1 Washington St., Suite 325, Dover, 842-4077, stages-dining.com).

• **CHRISTMAS EVE DINNER**

Tues., Dec. 24, at Bedford Village Inn (2 Olde Bedford Way, Bedford, 472-2001, bedfordvillageinn.com). Cost \$75 for adults, \$29.95 for children ages 10 and under, plus tax and gratuity. Reservations required.

• **CHRISTMAS EVE FEAST** Tues., Dec. 24, from 5 to 8 p.m. at Giorgio's Ristorante & Bar (524 Nashua St., Milford, 673-3939, giorgios.com). Cost \$29.99 for adults, \$9.99 for kids under 12, free for kids under 4. Milford location only. Reservations required.

### New Year's Eve Dinners

• **THE GREAT GATSBY** Dinner on Tues., Dec. 31, at Stages at One Washington (1 Washington St., Suite 325, Dover, 842-4077, stages-dining.com).

• **NEW YEAR'S EVE DINNER** Tues., Dec. 31, at Bedford Village Inn (2 Olde Bedford Way, Bedford, 472-2001, bedfordvillageinn.com). Cost \$75 plus tax and gratuity. Reservations required.

• **NEW YEAR'S EVE BASH** Tues., Dec. 31, at Giorgio's Ristorante & Bar (524 Nashua St., Milford, 673-3939, and Pennichuck Square, Merrimack, 883-7333, giorgios.com). Serving winter menu and creative specials. Music starts at 9 p.m.

• **NEW YEAR'S DAY BRUNCH** Wed., Jan. 1, at Bedford Village Inn (2 Olde Bedford

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## FOOD



# PERISHABLES

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## Chestnuts

*Chestnuts roasting on an open fire...* OK, not exactly an open fire but how about roasting in my oven? I know the words to the song but I don't think I had ever eaten a chestnut before today. Roasting chestnuts is a holiday tradition, supposedly. I say, "supposedly" because I don't actually know of anyone who does this. Save for the delicious nut roaster stands that give off that heavenly smell in cities like San Francisco and New York, I feel like I've been totally missing out. So, when I saw Italian chestnuts for sale at my favorite local farm stand, I snatched up a pound.

I had to do a bit of research on chestnuts because, frankly, I knew nothing about them. From various blogs to Huffington Post articles, I learned that the chestnut is an ancient food consumed by the Greeks and Romans. One even claimed this nut was around when the dinosaurs were. (Does T-Rex like nuts?) It was clear from my Googling that this nut



has been quite the staple over the years. And why shouldn't it be? It's filled with starch, not loaded with fat like other nuts, tastes great and even has half the daily value of vitamin C.

If its ancient history and nutritional value weren't chic enough for you, it's a Tuscan favorite. There are even festivals devoted to this nut. Peak season is October through the early winter, which is why I stumbled upon them today. Most people roast them but boiling or pureeing is also popular. Look for nuts with a firm exterior and be sure they don't have any holes or breaks in the skin, which could indicate a worm or mold problem, according to Martha (Stewart, of course).

—Allison Willson Dudas

### Roasted Chestnuts

1 pound chestnuts

Optional seasonings: salt, pepper, cinnamon, or butter

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. With a sharp knife, cut an "X" into the skin of

each chestnut, being sure to pierce the skin but not puncture the nut too much. Place chestnuts onto rimmed baking pan, "X" side up, and roast for about 35 minutes. When nuts have cooled slightly, peel and serve with choice of seasonings or au naturel.



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Way, Bedford, 472-2001, bedfordvillageinn.com). Breakfast served from 8 to 10:30 a.m., and brunch served from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Reservations required.

### Church/charity suppers/ bake sales

• **COMMUNITY BREAKFAST** Sundays from 8 to 11 a.m. at Philbrick-Clement Post 65 American Legion (12 N. Stark Highway, Weare, 529-2722, nhpost65.us). A la carte breakfast menu benefits the Legion and community outreach. Cost ranges from \$3.50 to \$7.

• **COMMUNITY SUPPER** Held the third Wednesdays of each month from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Milford at 20 Elm St. See [uucm.org](http://uucm.org).

• **BREAKFAST WITH SANTA** Sat., Dec. 14, from 8 a.m. to noon at the Chester Municipal Center (84 Chester St., Chester), hosted by The Friends of Chester Library. Admission costs \$6 per person (\$25 maximum cost for a family of six), includes breakfast and free family photos with Santa, crafts, games, holiday stories and raffles. Additional family photos with St. Nick cost

\$2 each. See [chesterlibrary.com](http://chesterlibrary.com).

• **BREAKFAST WITH SANTA** Sat., Dec. 14, from 8 to 11 a.m. at the Slusser Senior Center (41 Houston Drive, Hopkinton). Proceeds from the breakfast benefit Operation Christmas in Hopkinton. Admission costs \$5 for ages 12 and up, \$3 for kids ages 5 to 11, free for kids 4 and under; family rate \$18 if family's total cost is greater than \$18. See [hopkintonrec.com](http://hopkintonrec.com).

• **SPAGHETTI SUPPER** at St. George Church (25 Chapel St., Dover) on Sat., Dec. 28, from 4 to 6:30 p.m. Cost \$6 for adults, \$3 for children. Call 740-4287.

### Food classes/workshops

• **REINDEER FOOD** Preschool cooking class (for ages 3 to 5) on Fri., Dec. 13, at 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., and Sat., Dec. 14, at 10 a.m. at the Culinary Playground (16 Manning St., Suite 105, Derry, 339-1664, [culinary-playground.com](http://culinary-playground.com)) to make a sweet and salty snack mix. Cost \$16 per child. Registration required.

• **HOLIDAY DESSERTS** Cooking class at Chez Boucher (32 Depot Square, Hampton, 926-2202, [chezboucher.com](http://chezboucher.com)) on Sat., Dec. 14, from 9 a.m. to

1 p.m. Costs \$99. Registration required.

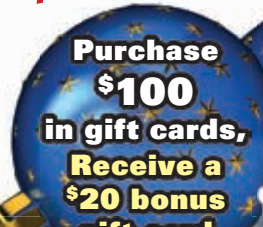
• **GINGERBREAD HOUSE WORKSHOP** Sat., Dec. 14, at the Children's Museum of New Hampshire (6 Washington St., Dover, 742-2002, [childrensmuseum.org](http://childrensmuseum.org)). Three sessions available: 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., 11 a.m. to noon and 1 to 2 p.m. Pre-registration is required. Admission costs \$30 per family for museum members, and \$40 per family for non-members.

• **GLUTEN-FREE COOKING CLASS** Sat., Dec. 14, from 1 to 4 p.m., holiday recipes. Cost \$80, includes four-course meal. See [royaltemptations.com/blog/gluten-free-cooking-classes](http://royaltemptations.com/blog/gluten-free-cooking-classes).

• **GINGERBREAD HOUSE** Workshop on Sun., Dec. 15, at 2 p.m. at Moulton Farm (18 Quarry Road, Meredith). Costs \$30 for each gingerbread house. Call 279-3915, or visit [moultonfarm.com](http://moultonfarm.com).

• **GINGERBREAD HOUSE MAKING** Sun., Dec. 15, from 3 to 5:30 p.m. at the Culinary Playground (16 Manning St., Suite 105, Derry, 339-1664, [culinary-playground.com](http://culinary-playground.com)). Adult and child teams will work together to make gingerbread

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# Beef stroganoff

Writing this column can sometimes be a drain on my cookbook resources. There are only so many recipes that I want to try based on the pickiness of my taste buds. And when online searches for new recipes with familiar ingredients prove futile, I'm often left trying to figure out what doubles as dinner for my husband and me, and as food for this column.

On a grocery store trip the other day I picked up a bag of wide egg noodles, intended for a pot of Italian wedding soup. I tossed it into my cart and noticed a recipe on the back for beef stroganoff, something I hadn't eaten since I was a kid.

My mom usually made the dish with leftover pot roast, or even ground beef in a pinch, so I thought it would be nice to try making the dish from scratch. I consulted some online and cookbook sources and most of the recipes are pretty similar: onions, mushrooms, beef broth and a thickening agent for the sauce.

Saving wedding soup for another day, I went home to cook up the stroganoff. Most of the ingredients I already had on hand in my pantry, except for the sour cream and beef.

The recipe was simple and only called for a few ingredients, but it took longer to cook



than I anticipated, which is why I'll probably save this recipe for weekend meals in the future. It doesn't take long to prep, but it has to cook for more than an hour for the meat to be fall-apart tender.

I ended up mixing and matching from a few recipes, and since I'm not a huge fan of mushrooms, I substituted half a can of cream of mushroom soup into the recipe to add just a hint of the same flavor. The finished product turned out better than expected, especially when served over the egg noodles tossed in a generous coat of butter.

The sauce was just the right consistency — not too thick, but not soup-like either — and it clung to the noodles perfectly. The meat (after much testing for cooking times) turned out tender and juicy. The sour cream and flour combo helped the sauce reach the right consistency while adding a hint of saltiness, and a dash of pepper finished it off nicely.

Beef stroganoff ended up being a perfect cold-night meal, and with leftovers it will last me for a few lunches through the week — a delectable way to warm up lunch at the office or even a second-round dinner later in the week. — *Lauren Mifsud* 🍷

## Beef Stroganoff

- 1½ pounds beef round, cubed
- ½ cup onion, chopped
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 10 ounces condensed beef broth
- 4 ounces cream of mushroom soup
- 1 cup sour cream
- ¼ cup flour
- ½ package egg noodles for serving

In a large frying pan, sauté onions and meat in oil until meat is browned. Add the beef broth and cream of mushroom soup. Let simmer on low, stirring occasionally, for at least one hour, until meat is tender. In a separate bowl combine flour and sour cream. Stir the flour-sour cream mixture into the broth until thickened. Meanwhile, cook noodles according to package instructions. Serve meat and sauce over noodles.

homes with royal icing. Cost \$45 for adult/child team (children must be ages 5 and up); for additional child cost is \$20. Registration required.

- HOLIDAY DESSERT** Workshop on Wed., Dec. 18, at 6 p.m. at Moulton Farm (18 Quarry Road, Meredith, 279-3915, moultonfarm.com). Cost \$25; advance registration required.
- WINTER HERBS** Wed., Dec. 18, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., at Brown Lane Barn (52 Brown Lane, Hollis). Cost \$15, \$13 for members or \$100 for the year to include other programs and materials. Call 465-7787 to register.

- COOKING CLUB** Teen cooking group meets on Tuesdays, Jan. 7, Jan. 21, Feb. 4, and Feb. 18, from 3 to 4:15 p.m. at Derry Public Library (64 E. Broadway, Derry, 432-6140, derrypl.org).
- DANCING LION CHOCOLATE** 917 Elm St., Manchester, offers events and classes regularly. Upcoming classes include: Baking Croissants with Savory Chef Jeff, Mon., Jan. 13, cost \$65. Call 625-4043; space limited. Go to dancinglion.us.
- BONE BROTH SOUP** Wed., Jan. 22, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., at Brown Lane Barn (52 Brown Lane, Hollis). Cost \$15, or \$100

for the year to include other programs and materials. Call 465-7787 to register.

- A MARKET** The Manchester natural foods store's education center offers classes and workshops on health and nutrition. See myamarket.com.
- BEDFORD COMMUNITY EDUCATION** Classes offered out of Bedford High School (103 County Road, Bedford, 472-3755). For information, contact Susan Sambrano at sambranos@sau25.net or phone 714-4395. Visit sau25.net/BedfordHigh.cfm; click on Community Enrichment Program under the Community link.



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# Rocky road bark

My chopper came to me without warning, like a scene in a romantic comedy where our heroine is bowled over by her unexpected first encounter with the man of her dreams. OK, so it wasn't quite so dramatic. But that initial meeting has matured into a fruitful and lasting culinary relationship.

The chopper of which I speak is, basically, a tiny, no-frills food processor that can handle about one cup of nuts or herbs or spices at a time. It is ideal for those recipes that require more finely chopped walnuts than you care to deal with by hand, but



not enough to bother dragging out the full-sized food processor.

I found my chopper for just \$10 at a chain supermarket while browsing for plastic food storage containers. Despite this low-budget provenance, the tough little machine has lasted many years. I use it to make small batches of pesto, to grind crystallized ginger for use in cookies, and, most often, to chop nuts for baking.

This week, I used my mini-processor

to prep nuts for a super-simple yet rather delicious batch of rocky road bark. Making candy at home, it turns out, only sounds frightening. For every fussy recipe for divinity or nougat, there are a dozen easy-to-make candy options.

Bark tops the list. At its core, bark is nothing more than melted chocolate smeared into a thin sheet, cooled, and bro-

ken into chunks. And embellishing this basic formula takes little more than imagination and ingredients. To create the rocky road version, I topped a base of dark chocolate with pecans, mini-marshmallows, and milk chocolate bits. Mint-lovers might try adding crushed candy canes and a drizzle of white chocolate. For a sweet-and-salty treat, try embedding pretzel

## Rocky Road Bark

- 1 pound dark chocolate, coarsely chopped if in bar form
- 1 cup pecans
- 1 cup mini-marshmallows
- ½ cup milk chocolate morsels

Line a large baking sheet with parchment paper. In countertop chopper or with a large chef's knife, coarsely chop pecans. Place dark chocolate in heatproof bowl and place bowl over a small saucepan of barely simmering water. Take care that the bowl

does not touch the water. Stir chocolate constantly until just completely melted. Remove chocolate from heat and use spatula to pour onto center of prepared baking sheet. Smooth chocolate into a roughly rectangular shape between ¼ and ½ inch thick. Scatter nuts, marshmallows, and milk chocolate bits over top of warm chocolate. Press toppings gently into top of bark. Refrigerate until firm, 30 to 60 minutes. Remove set bark from parchment, break into pieces, and store.



## HERBAL EDUCATION

The Beaver Brook Association is holding a winter herbs class on Wednesday, Dec. 18. Instructor Rivka Schwartz will demonstrate how herbal tinctures and tonics can boost the immune system against winter colds by using organic herbs and ingredients. The class runs from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Brown Lane Barn, 52 Brown Lane, Hollis. Admission costs \$15, call 465-7787 to register. The Beaver Brook Association will also monthly educational classes that feature natural ingredients, like bone broth soup and

saucers in January and soaking grains and fermentation in

March. See [beaverbrook.org](http://beaverbrook.org).

• **CHEZ BOUCHER COOKING SCHOOL** One-day workshops, mini-sessions, international cooking, cooking with friends, team-building, classes for kids and more. Chez Boucher (32 Depot Square, Hampton, 926-2202) can be found online at [chezboucher.com](http://chezboucher.com).

• **COFFEE COFFEE** Cooking classes features a different dish each with, also includes cooking technique instruction. Meets Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. at Coffee Coffee (326 S. Broadway, Salem, 912-5381, [coffeeroastersnh.com](http://coffeeroastersnh.com)). Cost \$30, call in advance.

• **CO-OP CLASSES** The Concord Cooperative Market (24 S. Main St., Concord, 225-6840, [concordfoodcoop.coop](http://concordfoodcoop.coop)), holds regular series on wellness, green living and cooking. Even free classes require registration. Visit [concordfoodcoop.coop](http://concordfoodcoop.coop) for schedule. Interested teachers can contact the Co-op Wellness Coordinator, Maria Noël Groves at 410-3099.

• **CREATIVE FEAST CLASSES** Liz Barbour's Creative Feast offers classes and

demonstrations held at RiverBend & Company (11 Cornerstone Square, Westford, Mass.). Email [lizb@thecreativefeast.com](mailto:lizb@thecreativefeast.com) or visit [thecreativefeast.com](http://thecreativefeast.com).

• **EXETER ADULT EDUCATION** Cooking classes offered at Tuck Learning Center (30 Linden St., Exeter) Sessions on baking, global cuisine and more. Dates and fees at 775-8457, [tgluck@sau16.org](mailto:tgluck@sau16.org) or [adulted.sau16.org](http://adulted.sau16.org).

• **FARM FOOD, GARDEN TO TABLE** Chefs at Moulton Farm (18 Quarry Road, Meredith, 279-3915) hold regular workshops, demonstrations, and events on preparing healthy dishes using farm-raised ingredients. Some classes have fees. Check [moultonfarm.com](http://moultonfarm.com); call the farm or email [robbmoultonfarm@metrocast.com](mailto:robbmoultonfarm@metrocast.com) for details and reservations.

• **FREDERICK'S PASTRIES** One-time classes for kids and adults in cake decoration and design. Frederick's Pastries (109 Route 101A, Amherst, 882-7725) offers demonstrations regularly or by appoint-

ment. Check [pastry.net](http://pastry.net) or call to schedule.

• **HANNAFORD SUPERMARKETS** offer free classes on stretching your food budget, healthy cooking, time-saving meals and more. See [hannaford.com](http://hannaford.com) and click on "health & nutrition" for classes at the Hannaford near you.

• **KITCHEN2KITCHEN** Chef Sarah Robinson of Forever Feasting and Margaret Angarella of Guided Nutrition hold Kitchen2Kitchen at the Capitol Center for the Arts (44 S. Main St., Concord) on Saturdays. Sessions are two hours on healthy, delicious and fast meals; \$65 per person includes materials, a shared meal, recipes and nutritional information. Visit [foreverfeasting.com](http://foreverfeasting.com) or call 568-2741.

• **LUNCH & LEARN** The Concord Food Co-op (24 S. Main St., Concord, 225-6840, [concordfoodcoop.coop](http://concordfoodcoop.coop)) holds "Lunch & Learn at the Co-op" some Thursdays from 12:15 to 1 p.m. The programs are limited to eight students; call to register.

• **NO-BAKE COOKING** First and third Tuesday of the month at 3:30 p.m. for kids ages 8 and older at the Wilton Public & Gregg Free Library, 7 Forest Road, Wilton. See [wiltonlibrarynh.org](http://wiltonlibrarynh.org). Registration required.

• **WINTERGREEN BOTANICALS** Herbalist Maria Noël Groves holds regular classes all over the state on the use of herbs for better health. Contact her at 340-5161 or see schedule at [wintergreenbotanicals.com](http://wintergreenbotanicals.com).

• **YMCA COOKING SEMINARS** Every first Monday at Nashua YMCA (24 Stadium Drive, Nashua), hosted by The Courville Communities' Executive Chef Greg Wadland and Pastry Chef Rejean Sheeche, 12:30-1:30 p.m. New theme each month with sample recipes, meal ideas, food substitution guidelines and more. Call 882-2011.

## Tastings

• **COFFEE** roasting and tasting demonstration of Kona Coffee at A&E Roastery, 131 Route 101A, Amherst. Free. Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 578-3338.

• **COFFEE** with food pairing on Fridays at 7 p.m. at Coffee Coffee (326 S. Broadway, Salem, 912-5381, [coffeeroastersnh.com](http://coffeeroastersnh.com)).

• **EXOTIC MEATS** The Healthy Buffalo, Route 4 in Chichester, 369-3611, [healthybuffalo.com](http://healthybuffalo.com), offers tastings of its exotic meats every Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Try the ostrich, alligator, elk, kangaroo and buffalo.

## Winter farmers markets

• **CANTERBURY** Indoor market on Saturday, Dec. 14, from

10 a.m. to 2 p.m., in the Canterbury Elementary School gym (15 Baptist Road, Canterbury). Visit [ccfma.net](http://ccfma.net).

• **CONCORD** Winter Farmers Market at Cole Gardens (430 Loudon Road, Concord, 229-0655, [colegardens.com](http://colegardens.com)) from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays until April 12 (no market on Dec. 28).

• **DERRY** on the first and third Saturday of the month, until Sat., March 15, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Upper Village Hall, 52 East Derry Road, East Derry. Visit [derry-nh.org](http://derry-nh.org).

• **EXETER** Saturdays, Dec. 14, Jan. 11, Feb. 8, March 8, and April 12, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Exeter High School, 315 Epping Road, Exeter. See [seacoastlocal.org](http://seacoastlocal.org).

• **GREENLAND** Held on the first and third Saturday of the month through March 1, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Rolling Green Nursery, 64 Breakfast Hill Road. See [rollinggreen-nursery.com](http://rollinggreen-nursery.com).

• **HENNIKER** at Community Park (57 Main St.), Thursdays, from 4 to 7 p.m. Visit [hennikerfarmersmarket.com](http://hennikerfarmersmarket.com).

• **MILFORD** in the Town Hall auditorium (1 Union Square) from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Held bi-weekly. Go to [milfordnhfarmermarket.com](http://milfordnhfarmermarket.com).

• **NOTTINGHAM** Sun., Dec. 15, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Old Town Hall on Stage Road, across from Blaisdell Memorial Library. Find it on Facebook.

• **ROLLINSFORD** Saturdays, Dec. 21, Jan. 25, Feb. 22, March 22, and April 5, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Wentworth Greenhouses, 141 Rollins Road, Rollinsford. See [seacoastlocal.org](http://seacoastlocal.org).

• **TILTON** Saturdays and Sundays through March 30, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at AutoServ,

67 E. Main St., Tilton. Visit [tiltonwinterfarmersmarket.com](http://tiltonwinterfarmersmarket.com).

## CSA

• **ABBOTT FARM WINTER** Nov. through Feb. Veggies, fruits, eggs, homemade breads, flowers and sweet corn. Pick up at Abbott Farm (390 Sanborn Road, Tilton). Call 286-9424, email [veggies@theabbottfarm.com](mailto:veggies@theabbottfarm.com) or visit [theabbottfarm.com](http://theabbottfarm.com) for membership.

• **BEANS & GREENS WINTER** Herbs, pasture-raised chicken, beef on the hoof, winter storage vegetables. Farm emails participants each Sun. or Mon. night with available items, \$25 and \$40 shares available. Tuesday pick-up at 300 Gunstock Hill Road, Gilford; delivery available. For details call 293-2853 or visit [beansandgreensfarm.com](http://beansandgreensfarm.com).

• **HERON POND/NEW ROOTS WINTER MEAT** Monthly pick-ups of high-quality, humanely raised Heritage Breed from the seacoast region. Grass-fed beef, lamb and natural forage pork and poultry are available as flash-frozen, vacuum-sealed, USDA-inspected meats with a freezer life of more than a year. Each \$100 share selected from those available at pick-up location. Visit [heronpondfarm.com](http://heronpondfarm.com) to sign up or find out more by calling the farm at 591-8720.

• **LOCAL HARVEST CSA** offer spring, summer and fall shares with a pick-up spot in Concord. See [localharvestnh.com](http://localharvestnh.com).

• **RED GATE GARDEN** Red Gate Garden in Loudon offers a 17-week summer CSA with a wide variety of vegetables. Whole shares are \$480 and half-shares are \$275. See [redgategarden.com](http://redgategarden.com).



# Drink-Able beer

Able Ebenezer brews taken for a test drive

By Stefanie Phillips  
food@hippopress.com

When four guys decided to start their own brewery, the Able Ebenezer Brewing Company was born. A few weeks ago, I had the chance to attend the brewery’s first official tasting at the Auburn home of Carl Soderberg, one of the Able Ebenezer founders. Here, the brewery is currently in its pilot program phase, with beer being made in 3- to 5-gallon batches in Soderberg’s garage. The guys plan to open a tasting room in Merrimack next year and will be upping production to 310-gallon containers to support growlers and local distribution.

While the guys work on securing everything else needed to move forward from home brewing to brewery, they are putting the finishing touches on four beer recipes and currently have two more “pipeline products” in the research and development phase.

“There is a story behind everything we do,” Soderberg said, from the pine tree in the brewery’s logo to the names of the beers themselves.

The brewery was named after Ebenezer Mudgett, a New Hampshire colonist who was involved in the Pine Tree Riot back in 1772. After the British claimed large white pine trees for shipbuilding purposes, several sawmill owners in Goffstown and Weare rebelled, later flying a pine tree flag.

“We liked the local history and the spirit that embodies us,” Soderberg said. “We are able, we want to accomplish things and stand on our own.”

The four founders met on different occasions years ago but came together recently to open the brewery. Zach Rand, known as “the glue that holds the group together,” and Jim Wilson met at Plymouth State University. Rand and brew master Mike Frizzelle met while they were in the same platoon in the Army. Rand and Soderberg then met in the Army in a different platoon. Some years later, Rand and Soderberg connected while working at the same company. After discussing the possibility of the brewery, they reconnected with Frizzelle, who recently moved from the West Coast to brew beer in New Hampshire. Rand, Soderberg and Frizzelle all now live in New England, while Wilson, the brewery’s social media and marketing guru, lives in Texas.

Soderberg said they designed their current selections to appeal to a “full spread of tastes.”

The first beer on the tasting menu was Auburn, an Irish red named for the town where it’s being made and fashioned after Red Trolley, a beer from California. This

beer is smooth and crisp with some subtle sweetness and notes of caramel and honey. It is recommended for brunch, but is also a beer for any occasion.

The next beer on the menu, Emma Wood, also has West Coast influences. A Belgian specialty, this beer is a cross between a Belgian white and a hoppy wheat beer and named after a beach in California. As a home brewer, Frizzelle first shared this beer with family on Emma Wood beach.

As a Belgian white fan, I really enjoyed this beer and its flavors of orange and lemon zest. It would also be good with an orange slice.

Next we tried Homecoming, one of the brewery’s pipeline products. This beer is described as a “robust harvest ale.” It is made with real pumpkin but is unlike other pumpkin beers on the market, made with specialty malts, cinnamon, citrus and nutmeg. This beer was a bit too heavy for me, but Oktoberfest fans will love it. One of my friends also suggested trying it with Guinness as a black and tan. It was named not only for the fall season but also for the experience of people coming home for the holidays.


The next beer, named Notorious Offender under its working title, also carried some weight. Described as a “New Hampshire strong ale,” this beer doesn’t really fit into an established category. Frizzelle combined dark malts with a wide array of bittering and aroma hops. The result is a beer that is “intentionally offensive, but strangely fulfilling” according to the brewery description.

Burn the Ships, a smoked India pale ale, is the brewery’s heaviest beer, brewed with smoked specialty malt and dry-hopped to give it a unique smoke-filled conclusion. This beer is named for the founders’ experience of opening up the brewery.

“Our ships have been burned,” Soderberg said. “We want our beer to be an experience. It’s something to talk about; there’s a story behind it.”


The final beer we tried was Tabula Rasa, an American Amber-style ale that is slightly sweet with caramel, honey and fruit flavors. This beer is “designed to confuse the senses while warming the soul,” according to the brewery. Rand named this beer after a concept from John Locke. Its name means “blank slate,” usually used to describe a birth, when a person is at their freest.

Overall, I was very impressed with the Able Ebenezer beers I tried. Once their Merrimack location is open, they will have tastings, tours and growlers available for purchase. They are also hoping to be on tap at several locations around the Manchester area. Visit [ablebenzer.com](http://ablebenzer.com) or find them on Facebook or Twitter.



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**DRINK**



**Bottles for the budget-conscious wine-lover**

This week we had a white as well as a red and both fit the seasonally helpful bill of being good wines to serve to a crowd.

The **2010 Stonehedge Gerwurztraminer** from Mendocino County (\$9.99 on sale from \$29.99) has aromas of sweet apple, green grapes and a hint of honey. This gold-colored wine had sweet flavors but isn't a sugary wine — there's enough tartness and mineraliness to balance the sweet fruit flavors. The wine leaves your mouth with a clean sensation, like you'd get eating cold grapes or a tart sorbet. Enjoyable on its own, the wine makes a nice accompaniment to crackers and mild cheese. Not too sweet or too crisp, this would seem to be a good chardonnay alternative if you want to add a white to your party mix.

"Yum" was the reaction one of us had to our first sip of **2009 Stonehedge Reserve Merlot** from Napa Valley (\$14.99). This wine had a dark cherry color and a cherry and vanilla aroma. After "yum," an enthusiastic "not bad" was the reaction to this



plummy wine, which, not unlike Stonehedge's Gerwurz, had sweet fruit flavors but wasn't itself sweet. After those succulent fruity bursts, a sip of the wine then showed tannins and a nice dryness. Not too big or too jammy, this is another all-around solid wine — nice on its own and good with food.

Each week in "Red, White & Green," the wine-lovers taste red and white wines that sell for not too much of the green, less than \$20. The goal? To find a good bottle without breaking the bank. Unless otherwise noted, the prices listed are what you'll find the bottles selling for at the New Hampshire Wine & Liquor Outlet.

## Drink

### Beer/wine/liquor tastings

• **WINE TASTING** Sat., Dec. 14, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at The Drinkery (2 Young Road, Londonderry) of Animal Rescue League of NH wines from IncredibREW. Call 891-2477.

### Beer/wine dinners

• **JINGLE BALL HOLIDAY PARTY** Fri., Dec. 20, from 6 to 11 p.m. at Zorvino Vineyards (226 Main St., Sandown, 887-8463, zorvino.com), with cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, four-course dinner and dancing.

### Beer/wine festivals and special events

• **PUZZLES AND RIESLING** Thurs., Dec. 12, at 5 p.m. at Cornucopia Wine & Cheese Market (4 Front St., Exeter, 772-4447, cwinecheese.com), German wine tasting with Ravensburger Puzzles.

• **PORTS AND BUBBLES** Fri., Dec. 13, at The Wine Steward (201 Route 111, Hampstead, 329-4634, thewinestewardnh.com). Two tasting sessions of port, sparkling wine and Champagne, with chocolate, cheese and caviar pairings. Cost \$15 per person (\$5 refunded with the purchase of first bottle of tasting wine). Reservations required.

• **CHOCOLATE AND VERMOUTH TASTING** Pairing and tasting event on Mon., Dec. 23, at 1 p.m. at Cornucopia Wine & Cheese Market (4 Front St., Exeter, 772-4447, cwinecheese.com).

### Beer/wine making classes

• **HAPPY NEW BEERS** Thurs., Jan. 9, at 6 p.m. at IncredibREW (112 Daniel Webster Hwy., Nashua, 891-2477, incredibrew.com). Cost \$35 for variety case, bottles included.

• **NEW YEAR'S WINEFEST** Fri., Jan. 10, at 6 p.m. at IncredibREW (112 Daniel Webster Hwy., Nashua, 891-2477, incredibrew.com). Cost \$60 for six bottles of wine.

### Weekly/monthly tastings

• **ATTREZZI** 78 Market St., Portsmouth, 427-1667, attrez-zinh.com, Fridays at 3 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday at 1 p.m.

• **BUTTER'S** Weekly wine tastings at Butter's Fine Food and Wine, 249 Sheep Davis Road, Concord, 225-5995, buttersfine-food.com, Usually Tuesdays, 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., times and days vary.

• **CORNUCOPIA WINE AND CHEESE MARKET** 4 Front St., Exeter, 772-4447, holds a tasting every Friday from 4 to 7 p.m.

• **DURHAM MARKET-PLACE** 7 Mill Road, Durham, 868-2500, holds wine tasting on Fridays from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

• **FIDDLEHEAD FARMS MARKETPLACE** 920 Central Ave., Dover, 749-9800, every Friday at 4:30 p.m.

• **HOLY GRAIL PINT NIGHTS** Thurs., 8 to 11 p.m., at the Holy Grail Restaurant and Pub (64 Main St., Epping, 679-9559) Sponsoring beer is sold at special price and drinkers get to

keep a promotional glass. Check out holygrailrestaurantandpub.com for upcoming beers.

• **LUCIAS BODEGA** Taste craft beer on Fridays 4-8 p.m. and fine wines on Thursdays 4-8 p.m. and Saturdays noon-6 p.m. at Lucia's Bodega (30 Indian Rock Road, Windham, 421-9463). luciasbodega.com.

• **IN THE MIX KITCHEN SERIES** at New Hampshire Liquor & Wine Outlets superstore (25 Coliseum Ave., Nashua) with local restaurants pairing meals with wine and spirits. Free, noon to 2 p.m. Saturdays.

• **NH LIQUOR STORES** statewide host wine-tastings and promotional events. See nh.gov/liquor/mkvent.shtml.

• **SIDEWAYS TASTING** WineNot, 70 Main St., Nashua, 204-5569, will hold a "sideways" wine tasting on Wednesdays from 5 to 7 p.m. The tastings will present wines from an individual distributor to be tasted side by side.

• **VINO AROMAS** 998 Elm St., Manchester, 626-8466, vino-aromas.com, offers "Wines Around the World" every Sat. from 4 to 6 p.m. Cost is \$10. They also offer tastings every Thurs. from 5 to 7 p.m.

• **VARIETAL TASTING** Monthly, first Thursdays 5-8 p.m. The Wine Studio (53 Hooksett Road, Manchester) discusses and samples five wines from different countries, regions and wineries from one grape. Visit thewinestudioh.com or call 622-9463.



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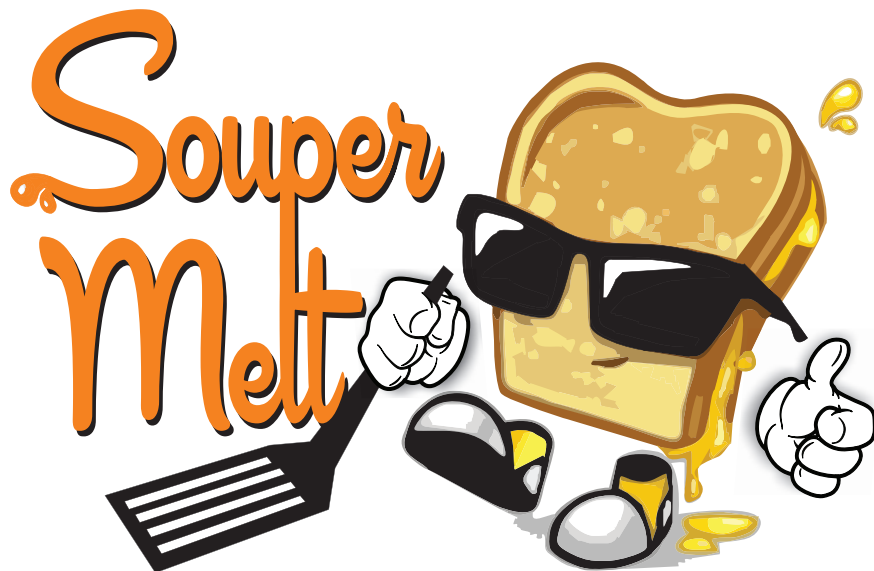
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- Carlton Melton, *Photos of Photos* **B**
- Nadjé Noordhuis, *Nadjé Noordhuis* **A**

- *Stitches: A Handbook on Meaning, Hope and Repair* and *A Prayer Journal*, both **B-**
- **From the Bookshelf**
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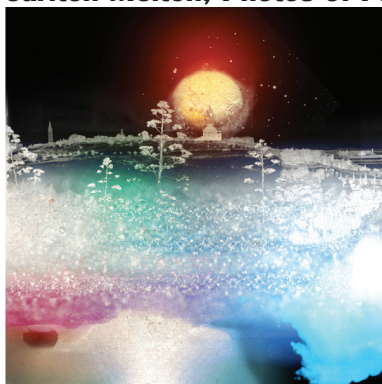
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- *Out of the Furnace* **C-**
- *Philomena* **A**

# POP CULTURE

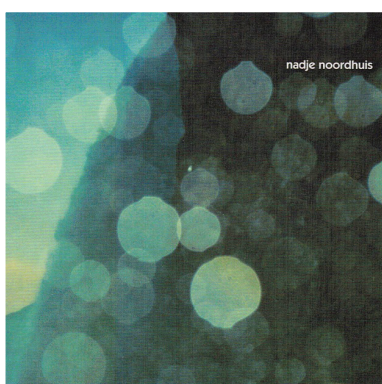
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## Carlton Melton, *Photos of Photos* (Agitated Records)



Between Sunn O))) and Pelican sits this Marshall-powered drone exercise, improvised subversion that fans of primitive SST-era underground doom will certainly appreciate. Supposedly what happens here is these five guys hole up in a geodesic dome, fixate on ringouts and slow riffage and improvise over it, thus there are no rehearsals or whatnot. Sometimes the sound is akin to *Black Sabbath Vol IV*, but mostly it's just a self-indulgent study in fascination. If you've ever had a ton of time to yourself alone with a Marshall amp and a decent guitar, you probably found that you misplaced a lot of hours just mucking around with fuzz levels and core sounds, and that's what you get here, a sort of voyeuristic look at raw experimentation. If the found melodies weren't so fascinating, this could be easily written off, but there's a certain hypnotic quality to it all. **B** — *Eric W. Saeger*

## Nadjé Noordhuis, *Nadjé Noordhuis* (Little Mystery Records)



This isn't my cup of tea, but rest assured it's a rich, brisk, flavorful blend, so do read further, as my taste has oft been considered to be in my feet. New York trumpet/flugelhorn player Noordhuis has a lot of melodies floating around in her head, not the simple dinner-chill I prefer but highly theatrical material, some of it extremely complicated. In the abrupt coda of "Mayfair" I'm definitely hearing a Celtic Woman sort of thing going on, a rolling, high-concept, widescreen jig marking the middle. But that's just one aspect of her range — "Water Crossing" evokes Andrew Lloyd Webber, not just in sound and passion but in technicality as well, and later on comes the Miles-style balladry of "Magnolia." While all this is going on, violinist Sara Caswell is absolutely blowing doors, glistening with brilliance — so what's my problem? Too brooding for me, most of it, but if you enjoy immersion in things that tend to lean more toward the minor, drop what you're doing right now and grab this. **A** — *Eric W. Saeger*

## PLAYLIST

*A seriously abridged compendium of recent and future CD releases*

- It's too close to Christmas Day to put out an album, if you like making money from albums you've recorded. This never occurred to a bunch of people, like **B.o.b.**, a progressive rapper who insists on releasing his third album, *Underground Luxury*, on Dec. 17. What a grinch. But such a crazy release date fits in with one of the cool songs on this LP, the trippy depresso-chill "Through My Head," which is about fighting back at The Man. And don't we all want to at this point? Cripes, even The Man has to be sick of himself at this point, I'd say. So anyway, the video features B.o.b. getting chased around some scuzzy city alleys by armed drones, and then it turns out he's an android and he explodes, just like the rest of us Man-fighting rebels, except we explode from too much turkey rather than righteous indignation.
- For hippies, there's *Grateful Dead's Birth of the Grateful Dead Volume One — The Studio Sides*, coming out on Tuesday. This is on two 180g vinyl albums, a collection of studio takes that were recorded in 1965 through 1967. It starts out with a cover of Gordon Lightfoot's "Early Morning Rain" and whatnot, all sorts of hippy music for your 8-track player.
- Yep, vinyl, that's what the last week before Christmas is all about, lots of expensive impulse purchases for you to make when you realize that you have enough left over for rent after buying all those presents. Even **Slayer**! Those guys have vinyl versions of basically all their old albums coming out on the imprint American Records next week, all those holiday chestnuts like *World Painted Blood* and *God Hates Us All*, for your eggnog festive cheer.
- That's really all I have to report — look at all these crazy vinyl holiday presents all over the place, where did it all come from. There's **The Beatles Live at the BBC**, if you like having three vinyl "platters" at the same time. And of course it's time for a new vinyl release of **The Who's Tommy**. Do you kids even know who The Beatles and The Who are? Of course you don't! These expensive presents are last-minute self-gifts for your parents and grandparents, who have much more discerning tastes than you, especially in the areas of vinyl records and buggy whips and quill pens. No, I'm kidding, vinyl is much better than digital, it's a fact. But, is 180g better than normal vinyl, or is it just stupid? Someone please let me know, so that I can invest in a future anachronism of tomorrow. — *Eric W. Saeger*

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# Shades of radio

WZID's Mike Morin tells his stories

By Kelly Sennott  
ksennott@hippopress.com

Mike Morin freely admits that if anyone accidentally buys *Fifty Shades of Radio* thinking it's E.L. James's book, well, he's perfectly fine with that.

"E.L. James stole my idea, oddly enough," he said. "They'll be a bit disappointed because there's very little sex in it."

But Morin, who currently co-hosts a daily morning show at 95.7 WZID-FM in Manchester, attempts to make up for that in his memoir that collects all of the best stories from his 40-plus years of radio.

"It seems like kind of a self-indulgent thing to write a memoir, especially if you're not famous. But everywhere I go, people always seem interested in my job. And I'm sure that's the way it is with a lot of radio people. Having been asked so many times, I decided to just put all of the stories I remember in this book," Morin said.

In it, he answers some of these frequently asked questions. (What time does he get up? At 3:15 a.m. Does he pick the music? No. Does he get a lot of free concert tickets? No.) In fact, some devoted listeners might already be familiar with his answers and some of these stories, but there will be a few new tales for even those most-avid listeners.

"I wrote the book for people around here. It's not going to be a *Da Vinci* bestseller, but it's for the people who've followed me now for nearly 30 years in the area. I wanted to share with them some things they didn't know about me. There will be some things that surprise them, and there may be stories that they'll remember, if they've been listening for a long time," Morin said.

One of those stories, which he retold over the phone, involved being frozen alive in 5,000 pounds of ice. It was for a Special Olympics fundraiser at an auto dealership, and Morin was at the center of a "carnival type of attraction," he said.

For two days, he holed up in a tiny crawl space within this huge block of ice. He wore just a T-shirt and pair of shorts. (OK, so he did let us in on the "trick." Between him and the ice was a thick layer of plexi glass.) He didn't eat solid foods for two days, and sup-



Mike Morin. John Hession photo.

posedly, he went to the bathroom in a couple of soda bottles.

Readers will also get a sense of what it was like creating the Tall Ships prank that got front-page news coverage, and, unfortunately, how it feels to read about your being fired in the Boston morning paper before it actually happens.

Morin also reflects on how the radio has changed since he was that young DJ.

"When I started, most radio stations were owned by individuals, by families. There was some corporate ownership, but this was back in 1971. ... Today you have companies that own thousands of radio stations. They might own half the marketplace," he said.

In addition, today there are artistic limitations, which, he said, drastically cuts down on the things you can do spontaneously. You have to get a station to sign off, he said, which reduces the things you might do in the spur of the moment.

"There's not so much of that going on today," he said. "It's more corporate."

But that means it's even more important to foster connections with your listeners.

"When people listen to you on the radio, they sort of form a bond with you, even if it is in their own mind. That's the mark of a good radio personality, that you're able to foster a bond with the people who listen to you," he said.

Morin, who's no stranger to writing — he has a regular column in the *Telegraph* and has contributed articles to *New Hampshire Magazine* — revels in this opportunity to tell his stories in a different way.

"The thing I like about writing is that I can tell stories in a more extended way. I can embellish more. I can give better descriptions. Radio is a medium that's consumed instantly; if I don't get listeners' attention within the first 10 seconds, they might turn the channel."

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### Author event

**Where:** Toadstool Bookshop at Lorden Plaza, 614 Nashua St., Milford

**When:** Saturday, Dec. 14, from 2 to 4 p.m.

*Fifty Shades of Radio: True Stories of a Morning Radio Guy Being Wired, Tired and Fired*

Buy the book (\$19.95) at plaidswede.com.



*Stitches: A Handbook on Meaning, Hope and Repair*, by Anne Lamott (Riverhead Books, 96 pages)

*A Prayer Journal*, by Flannery O'Connor (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 112 pages)

They wrote for different generations: one Protestant, one Catholic; one a single mother, the other childless; one a Californian; the other from the deep South. But Anne Lamott and Flannery O'Connor converge at the bookstore this month in two slim volumes of spiritual musings.

To be fair, a more apt comparison with O'Connor's *Prayer Journal* would be Lamott's last book, *Help, Thanks, Wow: The Three Essential Prayers*, released last year. *Stitches* is another late-in-the-year hardcover that feels more like shrewd marketing than inspired prose. Diehard Lamott fans — of which I am one — will buy it dutifully, but experience a vague sense of betrayal, as if the intimate author-reader relationship has been reduced to merchant-shopper. Fans of O'Connor, the great Southern fiction writer, may also feel like they were on the losing end of a transaction, with fewer than 40 pages of her youthful journal entries stretched to book length like so much pizza dough.

O'Connor first: *A Prayer Journal* is exactly that, the contents of a Sterling marbled notebook in which the 21-year-old wrote in 1946 and 1947, while studying at the University of Iowa. The journal was discovered among other papers recently by a biographer, W.A. Sessions, who wrote the foreword to the book.

Like so many Catholics, O'Connor was taught to recite prayers of the Church, but she found recitation a poor conversation with the Divine and struggled to focus, so she

began praying on paper: "My attention is always very fugitive. This way I have it every instant. I can feel a warmth of love heating me when I think & write this to You."

What follows is not a journal about prayer, but a journal of prayer. It reveals a young woman determined to believe, despite the counsel of skeptical peers, and a writer aware of her gifts and eager for worldly success. "Please help me dear

*God to be a good writer and to get something accepted. That is so far from what I deserve, of course, that I am naturally struck with the nerve of it."*

A staple in American literature courses, O'Connor wrote savagely of grace and redemption amid violence in short stories like "A Good Man is Hard to Find." The journal reveals that she considered herself somewhat of a stenographer taking dictation from God. "Don't let me ever think, dear God, that I was anything but the instrument for Your story," she writes in one entry.

O'Connor died nearly 50 years ago of lupus, the same disease that killed her father. Whether she would have wished for these youthful scratchings to see publication is unclear. The same woman who wrote "I would like to be a mystic and immediately" impugns herself as "an ingrate slothful & dirty creature" and "a glutton — for Scotch oatmeal cookies and erotic thought." She concludes, "There is nothing left to say of me," which, of course, proved colossally wrong. The journal is a fascinating, rare glimpse of the pupal stage of a renowned writer. But it's a mere appetizer to the feast yet to come.

*Stitches*, meanwhile, is more like a lackluster dessert, or a palate-cleanser that wipes

away memories of a more sumptuous course. Lamott's 15th book, it retains the author's comforting and compelling voice but feels like a rehash of previous work. Partly, this is because anything we love often feels vaguely familiar, but it's also because characters we met in Lamott's other non-fiction books drop in again.

Like *Traveling Mercies* and *Plan B*, *Stitches* is a literary companion to anyone struggling to live a life of faith in an age of disbelief and seemingly 24-7 horrors. Lamott references the Newtown shootings a year ago, asking a friend if there was meaning in the slaughter of those innocents. "Not yet," the friend replied.

"And yet, I do believe there is ultimately meaning in the chaos, and also in the doldrums," she writes. "What I resist is not the truth, but when people put a pretty bow on scary things instead of saying, 'This is a nightmare. I hate everything. I'm going to go hide in the garage.'"

Life is frequently grotesque, as if "we've been handed ugly patches for our quilt that clash with one another — brown Hawaiian print, say, along with orange Rob Roy tartan and three squares of vomitous sea-foam upholstery." Grace is the unifying stitches of compatible colors that makes the incongruous not only tolerable but strangely magnificent even if "the great secret insider-trading truth is that you don't ever get over the biggest losses of your life."

Here is classic Lamott; if this volume seems vaguely inadequate, it's because it suffers from comparison to earlier, more substantial work. Still, *Stitches* is a mature journaling of faith that is an odd but satisfactory pairing with the immature jots and tittles of young O'Connor. It's like Merlot with fish.

Both *Stitches* and *A Prayer Journal*, B—  
—Jennifer Graham

## Top 10 Contemporary romance

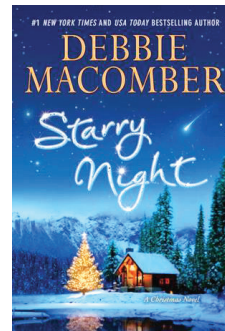
For the week of Dec. 2  
(barnesandnoble.com)

1 **Dark Witch: Book One of The Cousins O'Dwyer Trilogy**

By Nora Roberts  
Paperback, October 2013

2 **Starry Night: A Christmas Novel**

By Debbie Macomber  
Hardcover, October 2013



3 **Gabriel's Redemption**

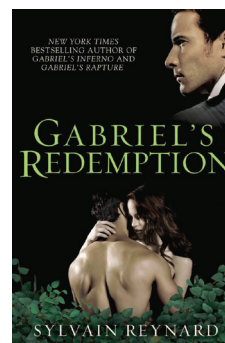
By Sylvain Reynard  
Paperback, December 2013

4 **Candlelight Christmas (Lakeshore Chronicles Series No. 10)**

By Susan Wiggs  
Hardcover, October 2013

5 **Hunted**

By Karen Robards  
Hardcover, December 2013



6 **A Seaside Christmas (Chesapeake Shores Series No. 10)**

By Sherryl Woods  
Hardcover, September 2013

7 **A Beautiful Wedding: A Novella**

By Jamie McGuire  
Hardcover, December 2013

8 **Hard As It Gets (Hard Ink Series No. 1)**

By Laura Kaye  
Mass Market Paperback, November 2013

9 **The Ever After of Ella and Micha**

By Jessica Sorensen  
Paperback, December 2013

10 **Beautiful Player**

By Christina Lauren  
Paperback, October 2013

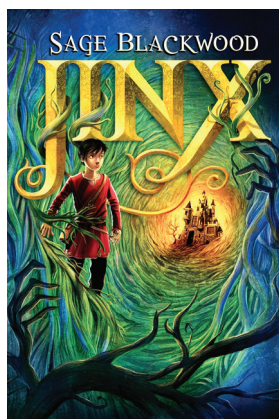
## CHILDREN'S ROOM

A weekly recommendation from the Concord Public Library

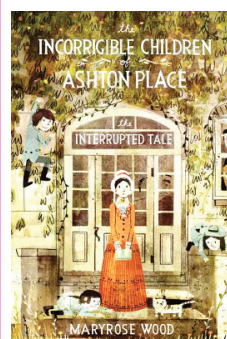
### Jinx

by Sage Blackwood, 2013  
(Fantasy, grades 4-8.)

In a land rife with witches, trolls, werewolves and werebears, young, orphaned Jinx becomes the apprentice of Simon, a cranky old wizard. Circumstances and overwhelming curiosity lead Jinx out into the magical forest and to his own, often dangerous, adventures. Enough loose threads at the book's end guarantee more to come.



## OUT NEXT WEEK



**The Incorrigible Children of Ashton Place, Book 4: The Interrupted Tale**

By Maryrose Wood, Eliza Wheeler (Illustrator)

Hits shelves:  
Dec. 17

**Author best known for:** The first three books of this Lemony Snicket-like series

**One-sentence review:** "Once again delightful wordplay and a plot that snakes itself around a suspicious family tree add to the deliciousness." — Booklist



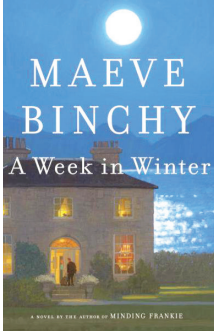
# BOOKSHELF

**A Week in Winter** By Maeve Binchy (Knopf, 2012)

My first introduction to Irish writer Maeve Binchy was *Circle of Friends*. The movie, starring Chris O'Donnell and Minnie Driver and based on Binchy's novel, was about to come out, and I wanted to read the book before I saw the movie. Both were worthwhile, and I've been a lukewarm fan of Binchy ever since.

My problem with her books is that they're all so similar — set in Ireland and often focusing on just one character per chapter. The characters are sometimes so loosely related that it's almost like reading a series of short stories.

This was true of *A Week in Winter*, published posthumously after Binchy's death in 2012. The gist is that a woman named Chicky, whom the first chapter is about, turns an old manse into an inn that welcomes an eclectic cast of characters when it first opens during, yes, a week in winter. Binchy's writing is engrossing, her characters fresh and entertaining — sometimes so entertaining



her again. Why didn't she call? Why can't I find out what happens to the cranky old retired principal who begrudgingly visits the inn after her school's staff, equally begrudgingly, buys her the week's stay as a parting gift? I know authors don't have to tie everything up neatly with a bow, that part of the intrigue of this book comes from creating your own endings. But I'm not gonna lie — I kind of wanted that bow.

Still, this was one of the better Binchy novels I've read in recent years. Oftentimes, because there are so many characters, it's hard to connect with any of them. *A Week in Winter* had such an intriguing group of characters that I found myself thinking about them even after I put the book down. I just wish I'd been able to spend a little more time with some of them. — *Meghan Siegel*

## Books

### Author events

• **CAROL LEE ANDERSON** talks about her book *The New England Life of Cartoonist Bob Montana: Beyond the Archie Comic Strip* at Water Street Bookstore, 125 Water St., Exeter, on Sat., Dec. 14, at 11 a.m., and at Gibson's Bookstore, 45 S. Main St., Concord, on Thurs., Jan. 9, at 7 p.m.

• **DAN SZCZESNY** will attend an author event for his book *The Adventures of Buffalo and Tough Cookie* on Thurs., Dec. 12, at 7 p.m., at Manchester City Library, 405 Pine St., Manchester; on Sat., Dec. 14, at 4 p.m., at Water Street Bookstore, 125 Water St., Exeter, 778-9731; and on Sat., Jan. 18, at 1 p.m., at the Derry Public Library, 64 E. Broadway, Derry, 432-6140.

• **JOE HILL** visits RiverRun Bookstore, 142 Fleet St., Portsmouth, on Thurs., Dec. 12, at 7 p.m., for a holiday party and readings by guests Jason Ciaramella, Christopher Golden and James Patrick Kelly. Tickets are \$20, includes paperback copy of *NOS4A2*. Visit [riverrunbookstore.com](http://riverrunbookstore.com).

• **STEPHEN SANZO** signs copies of his latest children's book, *Little Stinker*, at Barnes and Noble, 235 DW Highway, Nashua, on Fri., Dec. 13, at 6 p.m. Call 888-0533.

• **MIKE MORIN** talks about his book, *Fifty Shades of Radio*,

on Saturday, Dec. 14, 2-4 p.m., at Toadstool Bookshop, Lorden Plaza, Milford. Call 673-1734, visit [toadstool.indiebound.com](http://toadstool.indiebound.com).

• **ROBIN SCHOEN AND GAIL HOAR** introduce new book, *Grandmother's Guest: The Blue Lady of Wilton* at Toadstool Bookshop, 12 Depot Square, Peterborough, on Sat., Dec. 21, at 11 a.m. Call 924-3543, visit [toadstool.indiebound.com](http://toadstool.indiebound.com).

• **JASON LANDRY** about his new book, *Instant Connections: Essays and Interviews On Photography* on Sat., Jan. 11, at 11 a.m., at Toadstool Bookshop, 12 Depot Square, Peterborough. Call 924-3543, visit [toadstool.indiebound.com](http://toadstool.indiebound.com).

• **STEPHEN LONG** talks about his book *More Than a Woodlot* and about how you can help protect New Hampshire's wildlife at the Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua, on Wed., Jan. 15, at 7 p.m.

• **LYNN LYONS** talks about *Anxious Kids, Anxious Parents* at Gibson's Bookstore, 45 S. Main St., Concord, on Mon., Jan. 23, at 7 p.m. Call 224-0562, visit [gibsonsbookstore.com](http://gibsonsbookstore.com).

• **MIDWINTER AUTHORS AFTERNOON** at the Derry Public Library, 64 E. Broadway, Derry, on Sat., Feb. 1, at 1:30 p.m. Author readings, Q/A, book sale, signing. Visit [derrypublib.org](http://derrypublib.org), call 432-6140 for details.

• **SONIA SOTOMAYOR** talks about her memoir, *My Beloved*

*World*, on Wed., Feb. 5, at 7:30 p.m., at The Music Hall Historic Theater, 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 766-2192. Tickets are \$13.25, and with each 1-2 tickets sold, the purchase of a \$15.95 book voucher is required.

• **JAMES VAN PRAAGH** at the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, on Sat., April 12, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$29.50-\$59.50. Call 668-5588, visit [palacetheatre.org](http://palacetheatre.org). Bestselling author of *Talking to Heaven* and *Reaching to Heaven*.

### Lectures and discussions

• **EXOTIC DESTINATIONS LECTURE SERIES** at the Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua, through January. Randy Pierce presents "Reaching Our Peak Potential" on Thurs., Jan. 2, at 7 p.m. (became blind after college, went on to hike NH's 48 4,000-footers and get inducted in Pro Football Hall of Fame); cyclist Denis Beaudry presents his adventures biking around the world on Thurs., Jan. 9, at 7 p.m.; Bryan and Linda Higgs present a program on Machu Picchu on Thurs., Jan. 16, at 7 p.m.; Peter Christoph presents adventures hiking Mt. Kilimanjaro on Thurs., Jan. 23, at 7 p.m.; and Marina Forbes presents "An Insider's Guide to Russia Today" on Thurs., Jan. 30, at 7 p.m. Registration not required. Visit [nashualibrary.org/directions.htm](http://nashualibrary.org/directions.htm), email carol.

## Christmas on the Farm

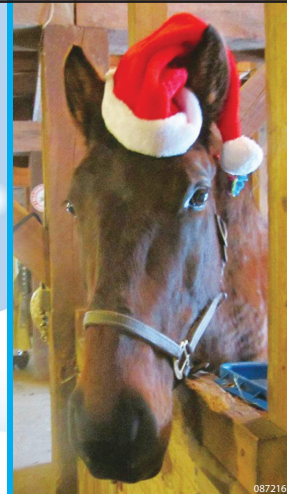
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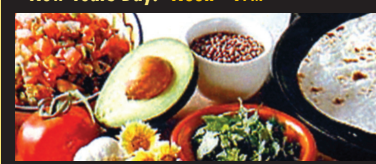
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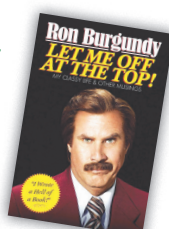
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**A few Holiday recommendations:**

First is a marvelous collection of **Emily Dickinson's poems: The Gorgeous Nothings.** This book is a facsimile of a great poet's "envelope poems," and at first looks like ephemera, until you realize that this collection comes closer than a standard collection does to show how Dickinson actually created her poems. She was so far ahead of her time, and not really of any time.

A frankly weird production is **Ron Burgundy's Let Me Off at the Top!** It's a fake memoir told entirely in the character of the iconic Anchorman character. I say it's weird because there was no reason for it to be as good as it is. It would have sold as a blank book.



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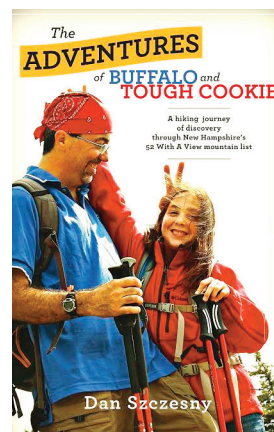
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**Book Report**



• **Are you up for the challenge?** The Young Adult Librarians of New Hampshire has announced the 2014 Teen Video Challenge. It's part of a national competition for teens to create 30- to 90-second public service announcements that promote reading and using public libraries. Using the Collaborative Summer Library Program 2014 national slogan, "Spark a Reaction," teens should incorporate themes from science (astronomy, chemistry, engineering, mathematics, physics) in their videos (which should also be designed for use at any library and appropriate for all audience viewing). Participants should be between 13 and 18 years old and legal residents of New Hampshire. Deadline to enter is Feb. 14, and each participating state's winning video will be used among other winners to promote summer reading across the country. Visit [yals.nhlibrarians.org](http://yals.nhlibrarians.org), [cslpreads.org/challenge-overview.html](http://cslpreads.org/challenge-overview.html).

• **Nashua Experience: A Three Decade Upgrade:** Three Nashua librarians wrote this book that evokes 30 years of Nashua memories. It includes the growth of high-tech, the fight for a wetlands ordinance, the sesqui-centennial celebration, the high school project and more. The book contains dozens of photographs and personal reminiscences of the city. It usually sells for \$25, but the book is available at the front desk of the library, 2 Court St., Nashua, for \$20 through Dec. 31. Call Carol Eyman at 589-4610 for more information.

• **Buffalo and Tough Cookie present memoir:** It's cold and snowy outside, and so instead of spending the weekend hiking, Dan Szczesny and Janelle Mylott will spend it promoting *The Adventures of Buffalo and Tough Cookie*, the book that tracks their progress covering a little-known hiking list called 52 With a View. They present on Thursday, Dec. 12, at 7 p.m., at the Manchester Public Library, 405 Pine St., Manchester. "This is a very special event for us," Szczesny said in a press release. "It's the first time we're coming home, so to speak, the first time we're doing a reading and signing in our hometown." The event includes a special violin introduction by Aaron Mylott and a slideshow presentation. They'll also present on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 1 p.m., at the Derry Public Library, 64 E. Broadway, Derry. Call 432-6140 for details. — *Kelly Sennott*

• **THE BOOK CELLAR** in Nashua hosts a book club that meets on the first Wed. of each month, new members always welcome. The Book Cellar is at 34 Northwest Blvd., Nashua, in the Westside Plaza, 881-5570, [www.bookcellaronline.com](http://www.bookcellaronline.com).

• **BOOKS IN THE MILL** spring book group series with Manchester City Library and Manchester Historic Association. Meets Thursdays at Manchester City Library mezzanine (405 Pine St., Manchester), 6:30-8 p.m., [manchester.unh.edu/events](http://manchester.unh.edu/events).

• **BUDDHIST PHILOSOPHY** book discussion group focuses on current literature on Buddhist topics, meets the second Monday of each month from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Anyone with an interest in Buddhist philosophy is invited to join: [www.meetup.com/Manchester-Buddhism-Sangha](http://www.meetup.com/Manchester-Buddhism-Sangha).

• **CANDIA SMYTH PUBLIC LIBRARY** book discussion group meets for friendly one-hour discussion once a month. The library is at 55 High St., Candia, 483-8245, [www.smythpl.org](http://www.smythpl.org).

• **CLASSICS CROWD** at Milford Toadstool Bookshop reads 19th-century British classics and meets every other month to discuss books voted on by consensus. New members always welcome. Meets on the third Thursday of the month. Visit [toadstool.indiebound.com/event](http://toadstool.indiebound.com/event) for book titles.

• **GIBSON'S BOOKSTORE** hosts monthly book discussions. Everyone is welcome to come for all or any of the dates. All discussion titles are 25 percent off until the date of their discussion. All meetings at 7 p.m. on the first Monday of the month unless otherwise noted.

• **GOFFSTOWN LIBRARY** evening book group meets the first Tuesday of the month, open to any interested teen or adult.

• **GOFFSTOWN LIBRARY** "literary ladies"/afternoon book discussion group meets the third Wednesday of each month at 1 p.m. Call 497-2102 if interested in joining book discussion group.

• **HOOKSETT LIBRARY** book group generally meets on the third Thursday of the month. New members always welcome.

• **HOLLIS SOCIAL LIBRARY** hosts a book discussion group on the third Tuesday of every month at 9:30 a.m. in the library meeting room. No signup required. Check with the library for the selection of the month. Mother/daughter book club on the third Wednesday of every month at 6 p.m. For girls grades 4-8 and their mothers.

• **HOOKSETT LIBRARY** tween book group for sixth- and seventh-graders meets certain Wednesdays; sign up online.

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eyman@nashualibrary.org, call 589-4610. All are free events.

• **MERYL STREEP** speaks at UMass-Lowell Tsongas Center (300 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Lowell) as part of its Chancellor's Speaker Series on Wed., Feb. 5. Details announced at later date; visit [uml.edu/streep](http://uml.edu/streep) for updates. Fundraiser for scholarships.

• **AN EVENING WITH ROBERT REDFORD** at Middlesex Community College at Lowell Memorial Auditorium (50 Mer-

rimack St., Lowell) on Fri., June 20, at 8 p.m. Tickets \$45-\$65.

**Book discussions**

• **AMHERST TOWN LIBRARY** Wednesday afternoon book club meets on the second Friday of the month at the library, 1-3 p.m. Visitors and/or new members always welcome (call in advance). Amherst newcomers group meets Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m. Visit the library for titles.



**Out of the Furnace (R)**

In a struggling rural Pennsylvania town, struggling rural Pennsylvanians struggle, rurally of course, in ***Out of the Furnace***, a movie about struggling and staring.

Don't get me wrong, it's some really top-notch actors doing all that staring: Christian Bale, Woody Harrelson, Casey Affleck, Zoe Saldana, Sam Shepard, Willem Dafoe and Forest Whitaker. And all of them commit to a kind of "I'm doing serious acting" griminess with imperfect hair or stubble that is more real-stubble than sexy-stubble. But this all represents a lot of character-actor solemnity for a movie whose plot still feels like rather thin soup.

The heart of that story: Brothers Russell (Bale) and Rodney (Affleck) Baze have taken different paths for dealing with limited opportunities in their small town of Braddock. Russell works at the mill, like his father did. He has a good job, makes an OK living and has a girlfriend, Lena (Saldana), who is eager to start a family with him. Rodney joined the army and has been stop-lossed back into combat many many more times than he wanted. He deals with assorted troubles, the most troubling of which — gambling, I think, though when we see him losing money at an off-track betting room it's because he was trying to win money to cover other debt — has him owing money to small-time local criminal John Petty (Willem Dafoe). Good brother Russell helps to pay down Rodney's debt, but a couple of bad decisions lead Russell into serious trouble of his own.

Some unspecified amount of time later (a few years?), Russell is trying to get back on his feet but he finds Rodney, now out of the military and too traumatized to work, has sunk even deeper into difficulty. Now, to make money, Rodney participates in illegal fights, usually as a guy someone



*Out of the Furnace*

has paid to take a dive. Even this, though, is too nickel and dime for whatever it is that Rodney owes and so he asks Petty to take him up into the mountains bordering New Jersey where the extra-super rural, extra-super shady fights offer a bigger payday. That area is controlled by Harlan DeGroat (Harrelson), a total psychopath we meet in the movie's opening scenes.

*Out of the Furnace* is overflowing with excellent crisis-of-masculinity, post-industrial malaise (when the movie begins, it's summer 2008) and has a setting that blends wild beauty and decaying signs of former prosperity. And, as previously mentioned, it has a solid lineup of actors all hopped up on accent training and ready to thespian the heck out of some existential angst. But the story quickly starts to feel like an acting exercise created solely to have different characters face off in a staring contest. Some 15 years ago, *Saturday Night Live* had a game show sketch called something like "Who's More Grizzled." There

are times when *Out of the Furnace* feels just as self-consciously determined to make its characters' chin hair that much craggier, the shoulder-slump of world weariness that much slumpier.

Last week, I called the goofy Jason Statham action movie *Homefront* a collection of discarded *Justified* B-plots. You could describe *Out of the Furnace* similarly, though where that movie is silly and outsized, *Out of the Furnace* is almost exaggeratedly grim and bleak. There is one scene — between Saldana and Bale, talking about the state of things between them — where the characters seem to show some recognizably human blend of emotions. Otherwise, *Out of the Furnace* is just a chilly wind punctuated by gun shots. C-

**Rated R for strong violence, language and drug content.** Directed by Scott Cooper and written by Scott Cooper and Brad Ingelsby, *Out of the Furnace* is an hour and 56 minutes long and is distributed by Relativity.

**Philomena (PG-13)**

A woman searches for the son who was taken from her nearly 50 years earlier in ***Philomena***, a sweet and sad but funny drama based on a true story.

Real journalist-turned-political flack Martin Sixsmith (Steve Coogan) is flailing for how to recover after a public scandal forces him to resign. He goes to a party where he makes two important connections: one is with Sally Mitchell (Michelle Fairley), an editor who tells him she's always open to a pitch for a good human interest story, and the other is with Jane (Anna Maxwell Martin), a woman working for the party's caterer who, just moments before heading to work, found her mother, Philomena (Judi Dench), clutching a black and white photo of a little boy. The boy, her mother told her, would now be 50 years old and was named Anthony (Tadhg Bowen). Young Philomena (Sophia Kennedy Clark), an unmarried woman in 1950s Ireland, lived with nuns before and after Anthony was born and worked in their laundry to pay back the debt they said she owed them. Though she saw Anthony daily and he called her mom, he lived in what was essentially an orphanage and, when he was a little over a year old, he was adopted away by a family who also adopted the young daughter of Philomena's friend. Philomena saw him go, cried and screamed after him, but could do nothing to stop it. As she tells Jane, she thought about him daily and eventually started to look for him, but the nuns at the abbey wouldn't give her any information.

Despite initially brushing off Jane and her mother's story, Martin gets interested and meets with Philomena. They make plans to go to Ireland, to ask the nuns again what they know. While a few of the older nuns from the day remain, they speak to

**REVIEWlets** Bite-sized reviews and previews of recent and future films

\* indicates a movie worth seeing. For more reviews, go to [hippopress.com](http://hippopress.com)

Note on film release dates: As we head in to the packed final weeks of the award-season-eligibility period, release dates may change. Most release dates reflect nationwide theatrical releases but sometimes a movie opens only in a few locations a few weeks before opening across the country.

**Opening Friday, Dec. 13:** ***The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug* (PG-13)**

Ian McKellen, Martin Freeman.

Part two of the needless trilogy based on the relatively short J.R.R. Tolkien book does at least feature Benedict Cumberbatch giving a motion capture performance as a dragon.

***Tyler Perry's A Madea's Christmas* (PG-13)**

Tyler Perry, Kathy Najimy. Perry puts on the Madea suit and makes room in his bank account for this holiday themed tale about Madea's road trip to help a friend reconnect with a daughter.

**Dec. 20: *Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues* (R)** brings the return of Will Ferrell as

Ron Burgundy along with his news team (Steve Carell, Paul Rudd, David Koechner and Christina Applegate), ***Walking with the Dinosaurs 3D* (PG)**, voices of John Leguizamo and Justin Long.

**Dec. 25: *The Wolf of Wall Street* (R)** Martin Scorsese's latest stars Leonard DiCaprio; ***The Secret Life of Walter Mitty* (PG)** Ben Stiller directs and stars in this tale of a man with an adventuresome life in his head; 47 ***Ronin* (PG-13)** Keanu Reeves says "whoa" to some samurai action; ***Justin Beiber's Believe* (PG)** is a concert film for your

teenage relatives to watch while you see ***The Wolf of Wall Street***.

Movies in limited release: ***American Hustle* (R)** David O. Russell's latest stars Christian Bale, Bradley Cooper, Jennifer Lawrence and Amy Adams and is scheduled to open in Boston on Dec. 20; ***Her* (R)** Spike Jonze's movie starring Joaquin Phoenix is scheduled to open in Boston on Dec. 25; ***Nebraska* (R)**, directed by Alexander Payne and starring Bruce Dern, is open now in Boston and scheduled to open at Red River Theatres in Concord on Dec. 20; ***Inside Llewyn Davis* (R)** the Coen

brother's latest is scheduled to open in Boston on Dec. 20.

**In theaters:** ***\*About Time* (R)**

Domhnall Gleeson, Rachel McAdams.

A guy uses his powers of time travel to secure his true love. **B**

***The Best Man Holiday* (R)**

Taye Diggs, Nia Long. In this sequel to 1999's *The Best Man*, the former college friends meet up for the holidays. **C+**

***The Book Thief* (PG-13)** Geoffrey Rush, Emily Watson. This adaptation of the book

by Markus Zusak tells the story of a young girl who moves in with a new foster family in late 1930s Germany. Lovely looking and well-cast, the movie itself plods along. **B-**

***Delivery Man* (PG-13)**

Vince Vaughn, Chris Pratt. A sperm donor learns that he has fathered hundreds of children. **C+**

***Free Bird* (PG)**

Voices of Owen Wilson, Amy Poehler. Two turkeys go back in time to the first Thanksgiving to try to save all of turkeykind its place on the menu. **C-**





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a younger woman who had been the convent and says that all the records from that time were lost in a fire — all the records except, magically, the piece of paper Philomena signed relinquishing custody of Anthony. Deep in a miasma of Catholic guilt, Philomena says that she did sign the paper, believing it was her punishment for the sex (which, worse still, she enjoyed), but never stopped wanting Anthony. A comment by the local innkeeper points Philomena and Martin toward America, where many of the children ended up (sold, they tell them, to whoever had the money). With expenses paid by Sally, Martin and Philomena set off across the Atlantic to find out what happened to Anthony.

Funny, *Philomena* is funny! I feel like this needs to be said because the story is based on real people, a real Philomena who had her real son shipped away to America and her real, at-times heartbreaking, search for him in the decades since. Without too many melodramatic flourishes, the movie makes you feel the terribleness of this, makes you imagine this unimaginable horror, and shows you Philomena's years of suffering, often just in how Dench purses her lips or in something small she does with her eyes. Dench, of course, is the kind of skilled actress who can do very little and still convey a lot and make Philomena's loss absolutely crushing. (What? My eyes? Allergies, just allergies. Shut up.) But as much as *Philomena* is about deep sadness, it is also about the relationship between

Martin and Philomena and, impressively, Coogan and Dench mix the two tones without causing whiplash. Sixsmith is suffering from wounded professional pride when the movie begins and is an unpleasant mix of defeated and haughty. He initially sees Philomena as a silly old woman — one who watches too much local news, reads too many tabloids and romance novels, and remains too respectful of the Catholic Church. But Philomena is the kind of person who can say, with touching sincerity, "being in first class doesn't make you a first-class person" to Sixsmith when he runs into a former colleague (with better seats) on the airplane to the U.S. He thinks he's tolerating her quirks, but she's tolerating his self-importance in order to find her son. And yet even with that movie-ready setup, Coogan and Dench don't let the relationship turn cartoony. Small moments make their working friendship feel real.

High emotion doesn't always lead to subtle film-making, but *Philomena* is the rare, welcome example of how it can. A

*Rated PG-13 on appeal for some strong language, thematic elements and sexual references. Directed by Stephen Frears with a screenplay by Steve Coogan and Jeff Pope (based on the non-fiction book The Lost Child of Philomena Lee by Martin Sixsmith), Philomena is an hour and 38 minutes long and distributed by The Weinstein Company.* 🍷

## SCREEN SHOT

### ALMOST HUMAN

Remember *Mac* and *C.H.E.E.S.E.*? *Friends*' Joey Tribiani starred in this show-within-a-show, which featured a detective (Mac) and his robot partner (some acronym that spelled "cheese"). On its face, *Almost Human* has a similar, almost parody premise: a buddy comedy/action show between a cranky, rule-bending detective (is there any other kind?) and a programmed to be by-the-book android partner. Add in a few jokes about the robot's ability to warm his partner's coffee and a few gags about our time period as viewed from the 2048 setting ("old-time singer Elton John" gets a mention in episode 3), and the show pretty much writes itself. But *Almost Human* both is and isn't exactly what you expect it to be. Sure, Detective John Kennex (Karl Urban —

Bones from executive producer J.J. Abrams' *Star Trek* outings) doesn't play by the rules and is tormented by a bust gone wrong in which he lost his leg, a human partner and his faith in the androids that accompany all law enforcement officers. But he isn't an unrelenting sourpuss. Fairly quickly, Dorian (Michael Ealy), the android he's assigned, and Kennex develop a nice Hawaii 5-0 level of slightly antagonistic partner banter. Dorian, meanwhile, isn't exactly Data from early seasons of *Star Trek: The Next Generation*. Dorian is from a mostly scrapped model of android that has emotions and, apparently, ambition — Dorian puts



up with Kennex in part because he's itching to get back on the force. *Almost Human* is, so far, fun. It gleefully riffs on the buddy-cop formula and gives us a core trio with nice chemistry — partners Dorian and Kennex and their boss, Capt. Maldonado (Lili Taylor). I'm sure we'll get more fancy-pants mythology as time goes on, but for now *Almost Human* is another in growing list of fun, comfort food procedurals. New episodes of *Almost Human* air Mondays at 8 p.m. on FOX.



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## MOVIES OUTSIDE THE CINEPLEX

### RED RIVER THEATRES

11 S. Main St., Concord, redrivertheatres.org, 224-4600

• **Dallas Buyers Club** (R, 2013)

Thurs., Dec. 12, at 2:05, 5:30 &

8:15 p.m.; Fri., Dec. 13, at 1,

3:30, 6 & 8:30 p.m.; Sat., Dec.

14, at 1, 3:30, 6 & 8:30 p.m.;

Sun., Dec. 15, at 6 p.m.; Mon.,

Dec. 16, at 2:05, 5:30 & 8 p.m.;

Tues., Dec. 17, at 2:05, 5:30 &

8 p.m.; Wed., Dec. 18, at 2:05,

5:30 & 8 p.m.; & Thurs., Dec.

19, at 2:05, 5:30 & 8 p.m.

• **12 Years a Slave** (R, 2013) on

Thurs., Dec. 12, at 2, 5 & 8 p.m.

• **Blue is the Warmest Color**

(NC-17, 2013) Thurs., Dec. 12,

at 2:10 & 7 p.m.

• **Philomena** (PG-13, 2013) on

Fri., Dec. 13, at 1:20, 3:40, 6:10

& 8:20 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 14, at

1:20, 3:40, 6:10 & 8:20 p.m.;

Sun., Dec. 15, at 1:20, 3:40, &

6:10 p.m.; Mon., Dec. 16, at 2,

5:25 & 7:45 p.m.; Tues., Dec.

17, at 2, 5:25 & 7:45 p.m.; Wed.,

Dec. 18, at 2, 5:25 & 7:45 p.m.;

& Thurs., Dec. 19, at 2, 5:25 &

7:45 p.m.

• **Muscle Shoals** (PG, 2013) on

Fri., Dec. 13, at 2 & 7 p.m.; Sat.,

Dec. 14, at 2 & 7 p.m.; Sun.,

Dec. 15, at 5 p.m.; Mon., Dec.

16, at 2:10 & 7 p.m.; Tues., Dec.

17, at 2:10 & 7 p.m.; Wed., Dec.

18, at 2:10 & 7 p.m.; & Thurs.,

Dec. 19, at 2:10 & 7 p.m.

• **The Band Wagon** (1953) on

Tues., Dec. 31, at 8 p.m.

### WILTON TOWN HALL

40 Main St. in Wilton, 654-3456,  
wiltontownhalltheatre.com

• **Blue is the Warmest Color**

(NC-17, 2013) Thurs., Dec. 12,

at 7:30 p.m.

• **Last Vegas** (PG-13, 2013)

Thurs., Dec. 12, through Thurs.,

Dec. 19, at 7:30 p.m. Additional

screenings on Sun., Dec. 15, at 2

& 4:30 p.m.

• **Philomena** (PG-13, 2013)

Fri., Dec. 13, through Thurs.,

Dec. 19, at 7:30 p.m. Additional

screening on Sun., Dec. 15, at 2

p.m.

• **Miracle on 34th Street** (1947)

on Sat., Dec. 14, at 4:30 p.m.

### CAPITOL CENTER FOR THE ARTS

44 S. Main St., Concord, 225-  
1111, ccanh.com

• **Falstaff** Met Live in HD on

Sun., Dec. 15, at 12:55 p.m.

• **Swan Lake** National Theatre

Live on Sun., Jan. 5, at 2 p.m.

### MANCHESTER CITY LIBRARY

405 Pine St., Manchester, 624-  
6550, manchester.lib.nh.us

• **Gremlins** (PG, 1984) on Wed.,

Dec. 18, at 1 p.m.

• **After Earth** (PG-13, 2013) on

Wed., Jan. 8, at 1 p.m.

### WEST BRANCH COMMUNITY LIBRARY

76 N. Main St., Manchester,  
624-6560, manchester.lib.nh.us

• **Smurfs 2** (PG, 2013) on Fri.,

Dec. 13, at 3 p.m.

• **The Lone Ranger** (PG-13,

2013) on Fri., Dec. 20, at 3 p.m.

• **Percy Jackson: Sea of Mon-**

**sters** (PG, 2013) on Fri., Dec.

27, at 3 p.m.

• **Super Buddies** (G, 2013) on

Fri., Jan. 3, at 3 p.m.

### BEDFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

3 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford,  
472-3023, bedfordonline.com,

free movie at 2 p.m. on the third

Sunday of the month, presented

through Parks & Recreation

• **Harry and Tonto** (R, 1974) on

Sun., Jan. 19, at 2 p.m.

### CONCORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

45 Green St., Concord, 230-  
3682, onconcord.com/library

• **The Holiday** (PG-13, 2006) on

Thurs., Dec. 19, at 6:30 p.m.

### NASHUA PUBLIC LIBRARY

NPL Theater, 2 Court St., Nash-  
ua, 589-4600, nashualibrary.

org. Call 589-4646 for a movie

schedule. Seating is limited.

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ted. Cinema Cabaret screens

adult films on Tuesdays at 7

p.m. and the family film series

screens on Saturdays at 2 p.m.

The two series run from October

to May.

• **Safety Not Guaranteed** (R,

2012) film discussion for

20-somethings on Thurs., Dec.

12, at 7 p.m. Watch film before

meeting with one of library's

several copies.

• **The Little Mermaid** (G, 1989)

on Sat., Dec. 14, at 2 p.m.

• **Wreck It Ralph** (PG, 2012) on

Sat., Dec. 21, at 2 p.m.

• **Mary Poppins** (1964) on Sat.,

Dec. 28, at 2 p.m.

### DERRY PUBLIC LIBRARY

64 E. Broadway, Derry

• **The Year Without a Santa**

**Claus** (1974) on Sat., Dec. 14,

at 1 p.m.

• **Santa Claus is Coming to**

**Town** (1970) on Sat., Dec. 21,

at 1 p.m.

### RODGERS MEMORIAL LIBRARY

194 Derry Road, Route 102,  
Hudson, rogerslibrary.org. 886-  
6030

• **The Hobbit: An Unexpected**

**Journey** (PG-13, 2012) on

Thurs., Dec. 12, at 6:30 p.m.

• **Despicable Me 2** (PG, 2013)

on Sat., Dec. 21, at 1 p.m.

### KELLEY LIBRARY

234 Main St., Salem, 898-7064,  
kelleylibrary.org, features a

movie night the first Thursday

of the month at 6:30 p.m.

• **Holiday Inn** (1942) on Fri.,

Dec. 13, at 6:30 p.m.

### PETERBOROUGH PLAYERS THEATER

55 Hadley Road, Peterborough,  
924-9344, showings of The

MET: Live in HD, National

Theatre Live

• **Verdi's Falstaff** on Sat., Dec.

14, 1:00 p.m.

### POLLARD MEMORIAL LIBRARY

401 Merrimack St., Lowell,  
Mass., 978-970-4120, pollard-

ml.org. Film night on second

Thursday of the month at 6:30

p.m.

• **La Sirga** (2012) on Thurs.,

Dec. 12, at 6:30 p.m.

### THE MUSIC HALL

28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth,  
436-2400, themusichall.org,

Some films are screened at

Music Hall Loft, 131 Congress

St.

• **In a World** (R, 2013) on

Thurs., Dec. 12, at 7 p.m.

• **Deceptive Practice** (NR, 2012)

on Fri., Dec. 20, at 7 p.m.; Sat.,

Dec. 21, at 3 p.m.; & Sat., Dec.

21, at 7 p.m.

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# THE ROUND UP

Local music news & events

By Michael Witthaus  
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

• **Wine & song:** Enjoy live acoustic music at an Amherst winery bedecked and bejeweled in holiday finery. The series began in the fall, and the upcoming performer really seems to love the place. **Chris Lester** (Mama Kicks, Monkeys with Hammers) is a regular at the weekly event, which takes a final bow on Boxing Day (Dec. 26, with keyboard player Dan Webster). See Chris Lester on Thursday, Dec. 12, at 6 p.m. at LaBelle Winery, 345 Route 101, Amherst. See [labellewinery-nh.com](http://labellewinery-nh.com).

• **Boys are back:** Original lead singer Peter Higgins has rejoined **Soundtrack to Monday**, and the Manchester party band is having a fine time with his return. The rocking quartet stops at a favorite Manchester haunt for a weekend show; their set list ranges from classics like “American Girl” to an offbeat cover of Brooks & Dunn’s “Save a Horse, Ride a Cowboy.” See Soundtrack to Monday on Friday, Dec. 13, at 9 p.m. at Murphy’s Taproom, 494 Elm St., Manchester. See [soundtracktomonday.com](http://soundtracktomonday.com).

• **Guitar army:** With a bullhorn vocalist and three guitars churning like chainsaws, **Spies Like Us** doesn’t perform, it attacks, a hard-charging metal band with a penchant for keeping the pedal to the floor. The Salem sextet celebrates the release of a new album, *The Great Unknown*, with a show in Nashua including Dead Ocean, Fight for Alaska, Vices and four more bands. See Spies Like Us on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 5:30 p.m. at Bernie’s, 522 Amherst St., Nashua. Tickets are \$12. See [paperstarshipentertainment.com](http://paperstarshipentertainment.com).

• **Tranquillo:** Though he’s the son of James Taylor and Carly Simon, the performing life wasn’t preordained for **Ben Taylor**. A world traveler before he got serious about music, Taylor briefly thought about farming. Then his cover of The Beatles’ “I Will” appeared in a movie soundtrack, and he soon surrendered to “the only career he’d understand.” See Ben Taylor on Sunday, Dec. 15, at 7 p.m. at Tupelo Music Hall, 2 Young Road, Londonderry. Tickets \$22 at [tupelohall.com](http://tupelohall.com).

• **Holiday buzz:** A fast-paced show featuring an impressive array of area musicians, comedians and personalities, The **Buzz Christmas Ball** is an annual holiday tradition. Jimmy Dunn and Tony V help provide the laughs, and Charlie Farren is among the all-star Velvet Elves Band, with plenty of surprises guaranteed from the *Greg & The Morning Buzz* Crew. Attend The Buzz Christmas Ball on Tuesday, Dec. 17, at 7 p.m. at Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester. Tickets are \$30-\$40 at [palacetheatre.org](http://palacetheatre.org).

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## NITE Fa, la, la, la Reine

Manchester original open mike gets its holiday on



Live art done by painter Steve Paquin at last month’s Java Jam

By Michael Witthaus  
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

The moment Alli Beaudry walked through the front door, Café la Reine spoke to her — or, more accurately, it sang. The Manchester native sat down at a table by the window, ordered a latte, and promptly wrote a song. The gourmet coffee and baked goods shop wasn’t even officially open, but Beaudry’s wheels were spinning.

A picture formed in her mind of a magnet for area musicians. Café owner Alexandra Puglisi warmed immediately to Beaudry’s pitch: monthly open-mike nights dedicated to original artists.

“I said yes right away, because I love music,” Puglisi said recently. “I especially liked the original aspect.”

The first Java Jam happened in June. Beaudry set up her keyboard in the same corner she’d sat in to compose “Days of Free” a few weeks before.

“We played to a packed house,” Beaudry said as she prepared to set up for the gathering a few weeks ago, on a night marking a half-year anniversary. “I have seen so many unique and talented new original artists come out. It’s a wonderful event.”

An audience ranging from 20 to a capacity of 50 is always respectful and receptive. A close community has grown among musicians like Ryan Sandford and Lauren Miler, who both played at the November event. It’s a round robin format, with each performer allotted three songs. Frequently the musicians treat their sets as an opportunity to try out new material.

Performers can experiment and sometimes fail, unafraid to put their naked hearts on display because they’re among friends. Sandford played a song he wrote earlier in the day called “Broken String,” which rippled with loss and longing. Miller followed with another relatively new tune, singing with a Missy Higgins warble her original “You Give Me Purpose.”

Timothy Jackson Scott was a first-timer who’d heard about Java Jam from his sister. His three-song set drew from an album he made last year, *But from this Endless End*. Playing acoustic guitar and a harmonica on a neck rack, he displayed startling lyrical maturity for an 18-year-old and totally won over the crowd.

The December edition of Java Jams will bend the rules a bit. It’s a holiday-themed

evening encouraging originals — Beaudry plans on performing her song, “Winter Love” — but welcoming a few seasonal covers as well, beyond “Winter Wonderland” and “Santa Baby.” Beaudry is a fan of Sara Bareilles’ 2011 song “Christmas Is Love” and other new offerings, so even the covers will have a cutting-edge glow.

But Beaudry also loves a sing-along, so in addition to the gingerbread and peppermint latte specials, there will be some standards in the mix.

Beaudry teaches private lessons and expects many in her tutelage to join the Christmas open mike.

“I begin my holiday workshop with my voice students this week, so I am sure that a good amount of them will be coming out to perform,” she said.

The November event ended, as it often does, with a spirited jam session. Beaudry and Sandford improvised a rock riff. Alexandra Puglisi’s father, Vince, who helps run the café, joined them with some tasty electric guitar licks.

The elder Puglisi also attended Berklee College of Music, Beaudry’s alma mater; she currently teaches at the Boston school.

“It was a lifetime ago,” Vince said as the night ended.

But his grin made it clear that he’s as pleased with the opportunity to play at Java Jam as his daughter is to host it. 🍷

### Holiday Java Jam with Alli Beaudry

#### Original Open Mike

**Where:** Café la Reine, 915 Elm St., Manchester

**When:** Wednesday, Dec. 18; signups at 7:30 p.m., music begins at 8 p.m.

**Cover:** \$5

## Bouncing back

Lakes Region jazz club weathers twin arson attacks

By Michael Witthaus  
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

Twice in the space of a month, Pitman’s Freight Room in Laconia has suffered fires at the hands of an unknown arsonist. On Sept. 28, a blaze set on a porch in the back corner of the antique store turned jazz club forced it to close for a month. Then, in the predawn hours before a planned Halloween re-opening, the arsonist struck again.

“We could not believe it [the second time]. We felt it was personal, that we were targeted,” said Connie Mitchell, who

owns Pitman’s with her husband, Richard. “We were so stunned, because we had just recovered.”

With help from the same group of musicians who’d worked to whip the place back into shape after the first fire, Pitman’s finally re-opened two weeks later. The second blaze caused less damage, which helped. Also key to the rapid return was longtime customer John Keane, who had a wedding scheduled there that he was determined to see through. Keane personally took care of outside repairs.

“He worked tirelessly,” said Mitchell. “Our friends and supporters made it bear-

able and helped us through emotionally as well.”

### Pitman’s Freight Room

94 New Salem St., Laconia (527-0043)  
[pitmanfreightroom.com](http://pitmanfreightroom.com)

#### Upcoming shows:

Heather Pierson Charlie Brown Christmas Show on Thursday, Dec. 12, at 8 p.m. (\$10)

Lisa Marie & All Shook Up with Kid Jazz Band on Friday, Dec. 13, at 8 p.m. (\$12)  
Comedians Paul Nardizzi and Bob Seibel on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 8 p.m. (\$15)





Lisa Marie will perform at Pitman's on Friday, Dec. 13, at 8 p.m. Courtesy photo.

With the installation of surveillance cameras and security lighting in the targeted area, the couple feels safer. But they still can't fathom why their business was singled out.

"I don't think it's because of the music; I think it's the location," said Mitchell. "It's a dark corner, and there were almost a dozen fires at different locations in the span of a week."

Being struck twice might have broken

the spirit of many business owners, but in both cases the energy of a community of musicians quieted whatever doubts they had, Mitchell said.

"It was a tremendous impetus for us to push forward and keep going. My husband built the place to where it is now. It was almost like a corrugated metal trailer when we first bought it, and he has done everything in here ... our heart and soul is in this. We have a lot of very loyal customers and support from our followers, so we are not ready to give it up."

Pitman's Freight Room began presenting live music two and half years ago, with once-a-week jazz shows evolving into blues, rock and eventually standup comedy. With the recent closing of the Purple Pit in Concord, it's really the only pure listening room in New Hampshire

north of Londonderry's Tupelo Music Hall.

Upcoming shows include the return of jazz pianist Heather Pierson's *A Charlie Brown Christmas* on Thursday, Dec. 12, and blues rocker Lisa Marie & the All Shook Up on Friday, Dec. 13. The latter show also features former Purple Pit owner Paul LeMieux's band Kid Jazz.

"I don't know if it was Lisa Marie ... but they kind of agreed that together they were going to do that," Mitchell said. "Their swing music is very popular with our clientele."

The floor plan is a mix of antique and function hall tables, matching the eclectic entertainment on offer. Pitman's recently marked one year of monthly comedy shows, which are very popular.

"I think everyone needs comedy during this economy," said Mitchell. "It is a big help for people to get through these times."

Led by Laconia Police Capt. William Clary, work continues on the arson case.

"Obviously it is still an open and active investigation," Clary wrote in a recent e-mail. "We have followed up on a number of leads and still encourage calls to The Crime Line or Laconia PD at 524-5252. There is a reward of up to \$1,000 for information that leads to an arrest."

## Nightlife

### Music, Comedy & Parties

• **CLUB SODA AT COOP JINGLE BELL BASH** at Concord Food Co-op (24 South Main St., Concord 225-6840) on Thu., Dec. 12 at 6 p.m. \$15 Enjoy festive food, drink, and live music by the Club Soda Band. All ticket sales will benefit the Make-a-Wish Foundation.

• **LORI DIAMOND & FRED ABATELLI** at Cozy Tea Cart (104 Route 13, Brookline 249-9111) on Fri., Dec. 13, at 7:30 p.m. \$10 - Fans of Norah Jones and Joni Mitchell enjoy Lori & Fred as they explore jazz, folk, pop and blues influences with an esoteric sensibility.

• **NH PARROTHEAD CLUB CHRISTMAS BASH** at Holiday Inn Nashua (9 Northeastern Blvd., Nashua 888-1551) on Fri., Dec. 13 at 6:30 p.m. \$25/Members \$30/Nonmembers Joe & Paul From The Island Castaways Band entertain, unlimited hot & cold appetizers and 1 drink ticket

• **MAEVE CHRISTMAS DESSERT & CONCERT** at Engine Room (150 Dow St., Manchester 361-6669) on Fri., Dec. 13 at 7 p.m. Maeve - Courtney Reid, Rachel Taylor and Rollyn Zoubek - create a cohesive sound rich with harmony reminiscent of Indigo Girls and Crosby, Stills & Nash.

• **FROST HEAVES/HOLIDAY HILARITY** at Peterborough Players Theatre (55 Hadley Road, Peterborough 525-3391) on Fri., Dec. 13 at 7:30 p.m. Also Dec. 14 and 15 (matinee) \$18/\$15 Frost Heaves presents the best of Christmas comedy from its first five years. Speed Bumps Band writes a song on the spot based on suggestions from the audience.

• **SANTALAND DIARIES BY DAVID SEDARIS** at Peterborough Historical Society (19 Grove St., Peterborough 924-3876) on Sat., Dec. 14 at 8 p.m., \$12. Scott Gardner takes the Yule season to another dimension as the crotchety Crumpet, an adult forced by circumstance into part-time holiday employment at Macy's.

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## TV HERO



After his incredible success on NBC's *The Voice*, Josh Logan has been a busy man. His two Dec. 30 shows at Manchester's Palace Theatre are close to sold out, and on Saturday, Dec. 21 he stops by Village Comics in Bedford to help with the store's grand opening and to autograph a custom art print of the singer designed by local artist Jason Casey. Village Comics will also be offering specials and deals on all merchandise. Autographed prints of Logan are \$15. 196 Route 101, Bedford 471-3931. Check facebook.com/VillageComics for details.

- **JONATHAN SCOTT/ NHCMA JAMBOREE** at Circle 9 Ranch (39 Windymere Dr., Epsom 736-9656) on Sun., Dec. 15 at 2p.m. \$5/members \$7/non-members The return of old friend and multi award winner The Jonathan Scott Band. They will be bringing some friends to fill out the day.
- **RHYTHM AND JEWS** at McKelvie Intermediate School (108 Liberty Hill Road, Bedford) on Tue., Dec. 17 at 7:30 p.m. \$7/\$5 University of Chicago's premier Jewish student a cappella group performing songs ranging from classical and folk tunes to contemporary pop and rock.
- **HARVEY REID & JOYCE ANDERSON HOLIDAY CONCERT** at Four Corners Grille (40 Andover Rd., New London 526-6899) on Thu., Dec. 19 at 8 p.m. Husband and wife duo return for a holiday concert tradition.
- **HARVEY REID & JOYCE ANDERSON HOLIDAY CONCERT** at First Parish Church (218 Central Ave., Dover 742-5664) on Fri., Dec. 20 at 8 p.m. Husband and wife return for a holiday concert tradition.
- **Open mike nights**
- **BERNIE'S** (522 Amherst St., Nashua) on Mondays.
- **BOONDOCKS** (487 South Stark Highway, Weare 529-

- 7747) blues jam w/ Paul Spera, Junie Belanger & Mickey McGuire on Wednesdays.
- **CHAPANGA'S** (168 Elm St., Milford 249-5214) with Joe McDonald Thursdays.
- **CLARK'S TAVERN** (40 Nashua St., Milford 769-3119) with Charlie Christos on second Thursday.
- **CONTOOCCOOK COVERED BRIDGE** (Cedar St., Contoocook 746-5191) with Derek Astles on Wednesdays.
- **DANIEL STREET TAVERN** (111 Daniel St., Portsmouth 430-1011) jam night on Wednesdays.
- **FRATELLO'S** (155 Dow Street, Manchester 624-2022) jazz open mike with Ferdinando Argenti Trio Thursdays
- **HUNGRY BUFFALO** (58 New Hampshire 129, Loudon 798-3737) with Mikey G Thursdays.
- **J's TAVERN** (63 Union Sq., Milford 249-9222) on Mondays.
- **JAM FACTORY** (1211 Elm St., Manchester 203-1458) hosted by Amanda McCarthy on Mondays.
- **JT'S BAR & GRILL** (326 S. Broadway, Salem 893-4055) blues jam with Steve Devine Thursdays.
- **MAD HATTER** (99 Route 13, Brookline 672-1800) jam session with Nicholas Pacheco on Tuesday.
- **NH TUNES** (250 Commer-

- cial St. Suite 2017, Manchester 660-2208) on Mondays.
- **RIVERWALK COFFEE ROASTERS** (35 Railroad Sq., Nashua 578-0200) original music open mike on Fridays.
- **TJ's BAR & GRILL** (23 Central St., Manchester 660-2241) with Jonny Friday on Mondays.
- **TRUE BREW BARISTA** (3 Bicentennial Square, Concord 225-2776) Thursdays.
- **VILLAGE TRESTLE** (25 Main St., Goffstown 497-8230) acoustic jam w/ John Erlman Fridays.
- **VILLAGE TRESTLE** (25 Main St., Goffstown 497-8230) Blues Jam w/ Wan-Tu Blues Band Sundays.
- **WICKED TWISTED** (38 East Hollis St., Nashua 577-1718) blues band jam.
- **WHIPPERSNAPPERS** (44 Nashua Rd No. 13, Londonderry 434-2660) jam night with Clark, David & Lowell Trio every other Monday.
- **WHIPPERSNAPPERS** (44 Nashua Rd No. 13, Londonderry 434-2660) Monday's Muse w/ Lisa Guyer and guest every other Monday.
- **WILD ROVER** (21 Kosciuszko St., Manchester 669-7722) acoutistic open mike Thursdays.

## BUSKING FOR GIANNIA



A talented local lineup performs a benefit show at Tandy's Top Shelf (1 Eagle Square, Concord, 856-7614) on Sunday, Dec. 15 at 6 p.m. Performers include Jonee Earthquake, AJ Dukette of WJYY, alt folkie Rachel Vogelzang and David Shore's Trunk of Funk, all banding together to raise money for Giannia, who died of SIDS shortly after her birth. The show is free, but attendees are asked to donate to a fund to purchase a headstone, so the world can have a small monument for a life that ended too soon. Pictured is Rachel Vogelzang.





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- Concert uproar
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- Loudon Wainwright III ‘Grey \_\_\_’ (2,2)
- ’83 John Cougar Mellencamp

- ‘Pink Houses’ album (hyph)
- ’99 Paula Cole album for grace?
- Join, to wardrobe
- ‘Self Control’ Branigan
- Bonham ‘The Disregard Of \_\_\_’
- Grabbed post-tour, on beach
- ‘Thanx For \_\_\_’ Reggie & The Full Effect
- Days Of The New “I’ve got this

- time on my hands, you are the one \_\_\_” (2,5)
- ‘Ga Ga Ga Ga Ga’ Texans
- Elton John ‘\_\_\_ Her Up’
- Yoko \_\_\_
- Crocodiles ‘I’m \_\_\_ Young Man Anymore’ (3,1)
- Singer Filth of Cradle Of Filth
- Bassist McKagan of Velvet Revolver
- Ted Nugents’ Dukes
- Close band
- ‘Love, Life, & The Blues’ jazz singer James
- Oasis ‘Don’t Believe The Truth’ single
- Death By Stereo (abbr)
- Greg Adams song that is not lo-fi? (hyph)
- Iron Maiden’s famous mascot
- Supertramp ‘Breakfast In \_\_\_’

- Some buy you instruments at Christmas
- Black Eyed Peas ‘Bridging The \_\_\_’
- Anthony Kiedis band \_\_\_ Peppers (3,3,5)
- Demagnetize, as a tape
- Recording w/distortion (hyph)
- Three Days Grace ‘Never Too Late’ album (3,1)
- ‘Super Bass’ Minaj
- Brother Cane ‘\_\_\_ In The Bed I Make’ (1,3)
- Tokio Hotel ‘On The \_\_\_’
- BTO ‘\_\_\_ Care Of Business’
- Unseen Guest ‘Place Your \_\_\_’
- ‘Stephanie \_\_\_’ Velvet Underground

- \_\_\_ MacGowan And The Popes
  - Winger singer
  - Tesla “There’s \_\_\_ out” (2,3)
  - Queen of neo-soul Erykah
  - Peter Criss “I’m \_\_\_ own, starting over again” (2,2)
  - British Sea Power guitarist Martin
  - Ravonettes ‘\_\_\_ To L.A.’
  - ‘Hell’ Squirrel \_\_\_ Zippers
  - Shangri-Las ‘Leader \_\_\_’ (2,3,4)
  - \_\_\_ The Wet Sprocket
  - Acronym song off ‘Black Sabbath’
  - Buffalo Springfield ‘For What \_\_\_ Worth’
  - Scarborough \_\_\_
  - ‘Poison’ Cooper
  - Van Halen ‘\_\_\_ The Hole’ (4,2)
  - Manager has endless ones
  - Springsteen ‘Murder \_\_\_’ (abbr)
  - \_\_\_: The Best Of Pink Floyd
  - Foreigner ‘\_\_\_ Provocateur’
  - ’99 Blondie hit about a girl
  - Unrehearsed stage banter
  - Russian trip-hopper
  - ’96 Amorphis album
  - Robert Plant ‘\_\_\_ And Sevens’
  - Catherine Wheel song about ‘Doll Parts’ band?
  - Grateful Dead “Yes I get the gist \_\_\_, but it’s alright” (2,2)
  - Hip hop producer that likes snow?
- © 2013 Todd Santos  
Written By: Todd Santos

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Saturday, Dec 14<sup>th</sup>

Every Friday | 7-11pm

Acoustic Open Mic Jam

Every Sunday | 3-7pm

Blues Jam

9am-Noon

Sunday Breakfast

**2 for Tuesdays**  
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Drop Off Location

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**WEDNESDAY**  
**COMEDY NIGHT**

**THURSDAY • 9PM—11PM**

**PUB TRIVIA**

**FRIDAY 12/13**

SOUNDTRACK TO MONDAY



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Live music at local bars and restaurants

MUSIC THIS WEEK

<b>Amherst</b> <b>La Belle Winery</b> 345 Route 101 672-9898  <b>Auburn</b> <b>Auburn Pitts</b> 167 Rockingham Rd 622-6564  <b>Barrington</b> <b>Chip ‘N Run Pub</b> 550 Province Road 664-2030  <b>Bedford</b> <b>Bedford Village Inn</b> 2 Olde Bedford Way 472-2001 <b>Copper Door</b> 15 Leavy Drive 488-2677 <b>Starbucks</b> 220 S. River Rd 263-0061  <b>Belmont</b> <b>El Jimador Mexican Restaurant</b> 171 DW Highway 527-8122 <b>Lakes Region Casino</b> 1265 Laconia Rd. 267-7778 <b>Lodge at Belmont</b> Route 106 877-872-2501 <b>Top of the Town</b> 88 Ladd Hill Rd 528-3244  <b>Boscawen</b> <b>Alan’s</b> 133 N. Main St. 753-6631  <b>Bow</b> <b>Chen Yang Li</b> 520 South St. 228-8508  <b>Bradford</b> <b>Appleseed Restaurant</b> 63 High St., 938-2100  <b>Bristol</b> <b>Back Room at Mill</b> 2 Central St. 744-0405	<b>Brookline</b> <b>Cozy Tea Cart</b> 104 Route 13 249-9111 <b>Mad Hatter Bar &amp; Grill</b> 99 Route 13 672-1800  <b>Concord</b> <b>Barley House</b> 132 N. Main, 228-6363 <b>Granite Restaurant &amp; Bar</b> 96 Pleasant St. 227-9000 <b>Hermanos</b> 11 Hills Ave. 224-5669 <b>Makris</b> 354 Sheep Davis Rd 225-7665 <b>Penuche’s Ale House</b> 6 Pleasant St. 228-9833 <b>Pit Road Lounge</b> 388 Loudon Rd 226-0533 <b>Red Blazer</b> 72 Manchester St. 224-4101 <b>Tandy’s Top Shelf</b> 1 Eagle Square 856-7614 <b>True Brew Barista</b> 3 Bicentennial Square 225-2776  <b>Contoocook</b> <b>Contoocook Covered Bridge</b> Cedar St. 746-5191  <b>Deerfield</b> <b>Lazy Lion Café</b> 4 North Road 463-7374  <b>Derry</b> <b>Coffee Factory</b> 55 Crystal Ave 432-6006 <b>Halligan Tavern</b> 32 W. Broadway 965-3490 <b>Sabatino’s North</b> 1 E. Broadway 432-7999 <b>Steve-N-James Tavern</b> 187 Rockingham Rd 434-0600	<b>Dover</b> <b>11th Frame Bar</b> 887 B Central Ave. 742-9632 <b>Asia</b> 42 Third Street 742-9816 <b>Cara Irish Pub</b> 11 Fourth St. 343-4390 <b>Cartelli’s</b> 446 Central Ave. 750-4002 <b>Dover Brick House</b> 2 Orchard St. 749-3838 <b>Fury’s Publick House</b> 1 Washington Street 617-3633 <b>Jimmy’s Sports Bar</b> 15 Mechanic St. 740-4477 <b>Kelley’s Row</b> 421 Central Ave. 750-7081 <b>Loft at Strafford Farms</b> 58 Route 108 743-3045 <b>RJ’s</b> 83 Washington St. <b>Roger’s Pizza</b> 869 Central Ave. 742-9870 <b>Sonny’s Tavern</b> 328 Central Ave 343-4332 <b>Top of the Chop</b> One Orchard St. 740-0006  <b>Epping</b> <b>Holy Grail Food &amp; Spirits</b> 64 Main St. 679-9559  <b>Epsom</b> <b>Circle 9 Ranch</b> 39 Windymere Dr. 736-9656  <b>Exeter</b> <b>Shooter’s Pub</b> 10 Columbus Ave. 772-3856  <b>Gilford</b> <b>Ellacoya Barn &amp; Grille</b> 2667 Lakeshore Rd 293-	8700 <b>Patrick’s</b> 18 Weirs Rd. 293-0841  <b>Goffstown</b> <b>Village Trestle</b> 25 Main St. 497-8230 <b>Wa Toy</b> 611 Mast Rd 668-1088  <b>Hampstead</b> <b>Pasta Loft Brickhouse Tavern</b> 220 East Main St 378-0092 <b>Village Square</b> 472 State St. 329-6879  <b>Hampton</b> <b>Boardwalk Inn</b> 139 Ocean Blvd. 929-7400 <b>Breakers By the Sea</b> 409 Ocean Blvd 926-7702 <b>La Bec Rouge</b> 73 Ocean Blvd 926-5050 <b>Old Salt</b> 409 Lafayette Rd 926-8322 <b>Ron’s Landing</b> 379 Ocean Blvd 929-2122 <b>Wally’s Pub</b> 144 Ashworth Ave. 926-6954 <b>Whales Tales</b> 169 Ocean Blvd 967-4771  <b>Hanover</b> <b>Jesse’s Tavern</b> 224 Lebanon St 643-4111 <b>Salt Hill Pub Hanover</b> 7 Lebanon St 676-7855  <b>Henniker</b> <b>Country Spirit</b> 262 Maple Street 428-7007 <b>Daniel’s</b> Main St. 428-7621 <b>Henniker Junction</b>	24 Weare Rd. 428-8511 <b>Pat’s Peak Sled Pub</b> 24 Flander’s Road 888-728-7732  <b>Hollis</b> <b>Alpine Grove</b> 19 S. Depot Road 882-9051  <b>Hooksett</b> <b>Asian Breeze</b> 1328 Hooksett Rd 621-9298 <b>New England’s Tap House Grille</b> 1292 Hooksett Rd. 782-5137 <b>Pizza Man</b> River Road  <b>Hudson</b> <b>AJ’s Sports Bar &amp; Grill</b> 11 Tracy Lane 718-1102 <b>JD Chaser’s</b> 2B Burnham Rd 886-0792 <b>Nan King Restaurant &amp; Lounge</b> 222 Central St. 882-1911 <b>SoHo Asian Restaurant &amp; Bar</b> 49 Lowell Rd. 889-6889  <b>Kingston</b> <b>Bucco’s Tavern</b> 143 Main St. 642-4999 <b>Kingston 1686 House Tavern</b> 127 Main St. 642-3637  <b>Laconia</b> <b>Anthony’s Pier</b> 263 Lakeside Ave. 366-5855 <b>Baja Beach Club @ China Bistro</b> 89 Lake St. 524-0008 <b>Broken Spoke Saloon</b> 1072 Watson Rd 866-754-2526 <b>Cactus Jack’s</b> 1182 Union Ave. 528-7800	<b>Crazy Gringo</b> 306 Lakeside Ave. 366-4411 <b>Fratello’s Lakes</b> 799 Union Ave. 528-2022 <b>Jazz Bar</b> 290 Lakeside Ave. 366-9100 <b>Margate Resort</b> 76 Lake St. 524-5210 <b>Naswa Resort</b> 1086 Weirs Blvd. 366-4341 <b>Paradise Beach Club</b> 322 Lakeside Ave. 366-2665 <b>Patio Garden Restaurant</b> Lakeside Ave. <b>Pitman’s Freight Room</b> 94 New Salem St. 527-0043 <b>Tower Hill Tavern</b> 264 Lakeside Ave. 366-9100 <b>Weirs Beach Lobster Pound</b> 72 Endicott St. 366-2255 <b>Weirs Beach Smoke-house</b> Rt 3 Laconia 366-2400  <b>Londonderry</b> <b>Coach Stop Restaurant &amp; Tavern</b> 176 Mammoth Rd 437-2022 <b>Stumble Inn</b> 20 Rockingham Road 432-3210 <b>Twins Smoke Shop</b> 128 Rockingham Rd <b>Whippersnappers</b> 44 Nashua Rd # 13 434-2660  <b>Loudon</b> <b>Hungry Buffalo</b> 58 New Hampshire 129 798-3737  <b>Manchester</b> <b>Breezeway Pub</b> 14 Pearl St. 621-9111 <b>British Beer Company</b> 1071 S. Willow St. 232-0677 <b>City Sports Grille</b> 216 Maple St. 625-9656  <b>CK’s Grill</b> 791 Second St 669-2868	<b>Club 313</b> 93 S. Maple St. 628-6813 <b>Derryfield Country Club</b> 625 Mammoth Road 623-2880 <b>Don Quijote</b> 333 Valley St. 792-1110 <b>Drynk</b> 20 Old Granite St. 641-2583 <b>Element Lounge</b> 1055 Elm St. 627-2922 <b>Farm Bar &amp; Grille</b> 1181 Elm St. 641-3276 <b>Fratello’s</b> 155 Dow Street 624-2022 <b>Gaucha’s Churrascaria</b> 62 Lowell St. 669-9460 <b>Hanover St. Chophouse</b> 149 Hanover Street 644-2467 <b>Ignite Bar &amp; Grille</b> 100 Hanover St. 494-6225 <b>J. Dubs Coffee</b> 1000 Elm St. 622-7944 <b>Jade Dragon MHT</b> 1087 Elm St. 669-5523 <b>Jam Factory</b> 1211 Elm St. 203-1458 <b>Jokers</b> 1279 South Willow Street 935-9947 <b>Karma Hookah &amp; Cigar Bar</b> 1077 Elm St. 647-6653 <b>Luigi’s Pizza Bar &amp; Grille</b> 712 Valley 622-1021 <b>Mad Bob’s Saloon</b> 342 Lincoln St. 669-3049 <b>McGarvey’s</b> 1097 Elm St. 627-2721 <b>Midnight Rodeo (Yard)</b> 1211 S. Mammoth Road 623-3545 <b>Milly’s Tavern</b> 500 Commercial St. 625-4444 <b>Murphy’s Taproom</b> 494 Elm St. 644-3535 <b>N’awlins Grille</b> 860 Elm St. 606-2488 <b>Olympic Lounge</b> 506 Valley St. 644-5559 <b>Penuche’s on Hanover</b> 96 Hanover St. 626-9830 <b>Piccola’s</b> 815 Elm St. 296-4070 <b>Raxx Lounge</b>	1195 Elm St. 203-1458 <b>Salona Bar &amp; Grill</b> 128 Maple St. 624-4020 <b>Shaskeen</b> 909 Elm St. 625-0246 <b>Sizzle Bistro</b> 1 Highlander Way 232-3344 <b>Social 24</b> 24 Depot St. 782-8489 <b>Starbucks MHT</b> 1111 South Willow St 641-4839 <b>Strange Brew Tavern</b> 88 Market St. 666-4292 <b>Theos</b> 102 Elm St. 669-4678 <b>TJ’s Bar &amp; Grill</b> 23 Central St. 660-2241 <b>Unwine’d</b> 865 Second St. 625-9463 <b>Wild Rover</b> 21 Kosciuszko St. 669-7722 <b>XO on Elm</b> 827 Elm St. 206-5721  <b>Meredith</b> <b>Camp</b> 300 Daniel Webster Highway 279-3003 <b>Giuseppe’s Ristorante</b> 312 Daniel Webster Hwy 279-3313  <b>Merrimack</b> <b>Giorgio’s Ristorante &amp; Martini Bar</b> 707 Milford Road 883-7333 <b>Homestead</b> 641 Daniel Webster Highway 429-2022 <b>Jade Dragon</b> 515 DW Highway 424-2280 <b>Pacific Fusion</b> 356 Daniel Webster Highway 424-6320  <b>Milford</b> <b>Chapanga’s</b> 168 Elm St. 249-5214 <b>Clark’s Tavern</b> 40 Nashua St. 769-3119 <b>Giorgio’s Ristorante &amp; Meze Bar</b> 524 Nashua St. 673-3939 <b>J’s Tavern</b> 63 Union Sq. 249-9222 <b>Madison’s Irish Pub</b> 586 Nashua St. 672-2060
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<b>Thursday, Dec. 12</b> <b>Amherst</b> <b>La Belle Winery:</b> Chris Lester  <b>Auburn</b> <b>Auburn Pitts:</b> Rockin' Ronnie Adams  <b>Boscawen</b> <b>Alan's:</b> John Pratt in Lounge  <b>Concord</b> <b>Barley House:</b> Traditional Irish Sessions <b>Hermanos:</b> Richard Gardzina <b>Red Blazer:</b> Christmas Music w/ Brad Myrick	<b>Dover</b> <b>Dover Brick House:</b> Mat Maier <b>Fury's Publick House:</b> Elijah Ocean <b>Sonny's Tavern:</b> Goth DJ Night w/ Tobias and Natalee  <b>Epping</b> <b>Holy Grail Food &amp; Spirits:</b> Max Sullivan  <b>Laconia</b> <b>Jazz Bar:</b> Eric Erskine, Audrey Drake & Phil Henry w/ Mike Rossi <b>Paradise Beach Club:</b> DJ Gin-E <b>Pitman's:</b> Heather Pierson - Charlie Brown Christmas Show	<b>Londonderry</b> <b>Coach Stop Tavern:</b> Chris Donahue <b>Whippersnappers:</b> Michael Troy w/David Stefanelli  <b>Loudon</b> <b>Hungry Buffalo:</b> Open Mic with Mikey G  <b>Manchester</b> <b>Breezeway Pub:</b> DJ Pet-Impulse <b>Club 313:</b> DJ Pez & DJ Carlos <b>Drynk:</b> DJ Vicious <b>Fratello's:</b> Fernando Argenti <b>Jazz Open Mic</b> <b>Ignite Bar &amp; Grille:</b> DJ Drive	<b>Karma Hookah &amp; Cigar Bar:</b> Midas Teleporation DJ/Drums <b>Midnight Rodeo (Yard):</b> Line Dancing Lessons <b>Milly's Tavern:</b> Lakes Region Big Band <b>N'awlins Grille:</b> Live Jazz <b>Raxx Lounge:</b> DJ Mike <b>Shaskeen:</b> Midnight Ghost Train, Thunderhawk, Skrogg <b>Social 24:</b> Sexy Santa Naughty or Nice - beats by Cootz <b>Strange Brew Tavern:</b> John Medeiros  <b>Merrimack</b> <b>Homestead:</b> Gary Lopez	<b>Nashua</b> <b>Amsterdam:</b> DJ Sammy Smoove <b>Boston Billiard Club:</b> DJ & Beach Night <b>Fody's Tavern:</b> 21st & 1st upstairs, Comedy on Purpose downstairs  <b>Newmarket</b> <b>Stone Church:</b> Live Irish Music w/ Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki  <b>Portsmouth</b> <b>British Beer Company POR:</b> Drew Yount <b>Dolphin Striker:</b> Family Affair	<b>Press Room:</b> Bob Halperin <b>Red Door:</b> Local Heroes <b>Ri Ra Irish Pub:</b> Live Music <b>Rudi's:</b> Jim Dozet & Guest <b>Thirsty Moose:</b> Atlas Gray  <b>Salem</b> <b>JT's Bar and Grill:</b> Open Mic Blues Jam with Steve Devine  <b>Weare</b> <b>Boondocks Tavern:</b> Jenn Mitchell
<b>Friday, Dec. 13</b>					
<b>Belmont</b> <b>Lakes Region Casino:</b> Shana Stack Bank					







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**\$10 OFF A NEW MEMBERSHIP** (limited time only)

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All Are Welcome – 21 and Over • Live Entertainment

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12/21 Meat Bingo 2pm | Nick at Night DJ 8pm | 12/29 Sunday Brunch 10am – 12pm

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and Dancing to  
the countdown.

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## NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK



## CELTIC MATINEE

A Celtic Christmas Sojourn returns to Derry's Stockbridge Theatre for two shows on Saturday, Dec. 14 at 3 and 7:30 p.m. Once again led by Brian O'Donovan, this year's additions include a world-class trio of singers, a brass section, Scandinavian fiddling, Scottish harpist, and one of the most exciting choreographers in the history of the show, plus an all new stage design and some special surprises, promising to make the 2013 edition of the show, one of the strongest to date. Tickets are \$42 & \$52.  
44 N. Main Street, Derry – [www.heptunesconcerts.com](http://www.heptunesconcerts.com).

**Derryfield:** Connption Fits  
**Drynk:** Ugly Sweater Party w/ Jimmy Magoon & Marcelle Caron, Adam Fithian (Prospect Hill) hosts  
**Element Lounge:** DJ Smallz  
**Fratello's:** Paul Luff  
**Ignite Bar & Grille:** DJ Mad-scratch  
**Jade Dragon MHT:** Tigerlily  
**Jam Factory:** Acoustic Jam w/ Peter Gustafson, David Ryan Gallant, Amanda McCarthy, Drunken Uncle  
**Milly's Tavern:** Maybrick, Angry Bobb, Elijah Clark, Rotsy, Kevin Haynes; then Hip HopR&B/Andreas, Time 4D and Leppa, J-Pusha, RedKrow  
**Murphy's Taproom:** Soundtrack To Monday  
N'awlins Grille: Live Jazz  
**Penuche's:** Romano Project  
**Raxx Lounge:** DJ Mike  
**Shaskeen:** Take 4  
**Strange Brew Tavern:** Matthew Stubbs

**Merrimack**  
Homestead: Charlie Christos

**Milford**  
Clark's Tavern: Gary Lopez

**Nashua**  
**Amsterdam:** Stolen Luck  
**Arena:** Chad LaMarsh / DJ Danjah  
**Country Tavern:** Corey Brackett  
**Fody's Tavern:** Radio Star  
**Stella Blu:** Chris Lester

**New Boston**  
Molly's Tavern: Live Music

**Newmarket**  
Stone Church: Blacklight  
Ruckus w/Strange Changes

**Peterborough**  
Harlow's Pub: Appalachian Still

**Portsmouth**  
**Blue Mermaid Island Grill:** Live Local Music  
**British Beer Co.:** Red Sky Mary  
**Dolphin Striker:** Groove Cats  
**Hilton Garden Inn:** Dave Gerard  
**Oar House:** Bob Arens  
**Portsmouth Book & Bar:** Meg Hutchinson

**Portsmouth Gas Light:** Keith Henderson (Grill), Sexy Santa w/DJ Koko P (Club), Dustin Ladale (Pub)  
**Press Room:** Dub Apocalypse  
**Red Door:** Lord Bass  
**Ri Ra Irish Pub:** Live Music  
**Rudi's:** Kelly Muse & Guest  
**Rusty Hammer:** Live Music  
**Thirsty Moose Tap House:** Reggae 101 Series

**Salem**  
**Black Water Grill:** Rick Breton & Crew

**Seabrook**  
**Chop Shop Pub:** Inner Child

**Saturday, Dec. 14**  
**Boscawen**  
Alan's: Brad Myrick

**Bow**  
Chen Yang Li: Northern Light

**Brookline**  
Mad Hatter: Slakas

**Concord**  
**Hermanos:** Mike Alberici  
**Penuche's Ale House:** The Shardz  
**True Brew Barista:** Holmes

**Dover**  
**Asia:** DJ Shadow Walker  
**Dover Brick House:** Tore Down/Waylon Speed  
**Fury's Publick House:** Iron Heart Circus  
**Kelley's Row:** Rob & Jody  
**Sonny's Tavern:** Petty Morals/ God Damn Draculas

**Epping**  
Holy Grail: Side Car

**Epsom**  
**Circle 9 Ranch:** Karen Morgan & Pony Express

**Gilford**  
**Patrick's:** Brooks Hubbard & Paul Costley  
**Goffstown**  
**Village Trestle:** Manchuka Christmas Party

**Hampton**  
**Wally's Pub:** Hott Commodity

**Hooksett**  
**Asian Breeze:** Live Music  
**New England's Tap House**  
Grille: Dan King

**Kingston**  
**Bucco's Tavern:** Live Music

**Laconia**  
**Baja Beach Club:** DJ  
**Pitman's Freight Room:** Comedy Night with Paul Nardizzi & Bob Seibel  
**Tower Hill Tavern:** Ben Knight/ The Glympse

**Londonderry**  
**Coach Stop Tavern:** Paul Luff  
**Whippersnappers:** Souled Out Soul Band

**Manchester**  
**Breezeway Pub:** DJ McKay  
**British Beer Company MHT:** Erin Ollis & The Whiskey Rye Band  
**City Sports Grille:** Bad Medicine  
**Club 313:** Comedy Drag Show w/ DJ Bob  
**Derryfield Country Club:** Chad Lamarsh Band  
**Element Lounge:** DJ Smallz  
**Fratello's:** Lachlan Maclearn  
**Jade Dragon MHT:** Off Duty Angels  
**Jam Factory:** Acoustic Jam w/ Skip McDonald, Andy Kiniry, Andrew DiMarzo, Threadweaver  
**Mad Bob's Saloon:** Mindset X, Mongrel & Davil's Twins  
**Midnight Rodeo (Yard):** The Dan Morgan Band  
**Milly's Tavern:** Live Music  
**Murphy's Taproom:** Without Paris  
N'awlins Grille: Live Jazz  
**Penuche's:** Live Music  
**Raxx Lounge:** DJ Mike  
**Shaskeen:** Age Against the Machine w/ A Simple Complex  
**Strange Brew Tavern:** Paws Up

**Merrimack**  
**Homestead:** Gary Lopez  
**Jade Dragon:** Country Felix

**Milford**  
**Clark's Tavern:** Brad Bosse

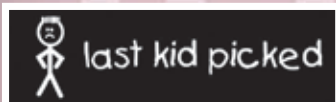
**Nashua**  
**Amsterdam:** Al Janson  
**Arena:** Comedy on Purpose



# NEW YEAR'S EVE AT THE DERRYFIELD

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NEW  
YEAR  
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Sat. 12/14 • COUNTRY FELIX

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\$15  
GA

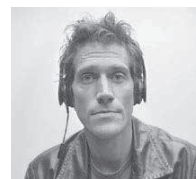
**KELLER WILLIAMS  
(SOLO)**



Fri.,  
January 10

8:00 p.m.  
\$35  
RS-Theater

**BENT TAYLOR**



Sun.,  
December 15

7:00 p.m.  
\$22  
RS-Theater

**BEATLEJUICE**



Sat., January 11

8:00 • \$25 • RS-Theater

**NIGHT OF COMEDY**

Featuring Paul Nardizzi, Steve Scarfo, and  
Abhishek Shah



Fri.,  
December 20

8:00 p.m.  
\$18  
RS-Tables

**NIGHT OF COMEDY**

Featuring Mike Hanley and Orlando Baxter



Fri.,  
January 17

8:00 p.m.  
\$18  
RS-Tables

**STEPHEN KELLOGG**

Alone for the Holidays Part Deux



Fri.,  
December 27

8:00 p.m.  
\$25  
RS-Theater

**THE ALTERNATE  
ROUTES**



Sat.,  
January 18

8:00 p.m.  
\$20  
GA

**RYAN MONTBLEAU**

(SOLO)



Fri.,  
January 3

8:00 p.m.  
\$25  
GA

**PAULA COLE**



Sat.,  
January 25

8:00 p.m.  
\$45  
RS-Theater

**WILLIE NILE**



Sat.,  
January 4

8:00 p.m.  
\$20  
GA

**MARSHALL CRENSHAW  
& THE BOTTLE ROCKETS**



Sun.,  
January 26

7:00 p.m.  
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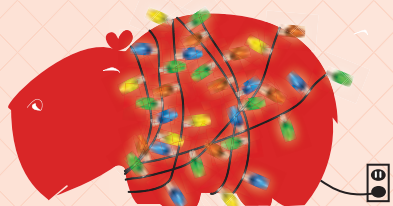
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**New Boston**  
**Molly's Tavern:** Live Music

**Newmarket**  
**Stone Church:** Harsh Armadillo

**Peterborough**  
**Harlow's Pub:** 33 Leaves

**Portsmouth**  
**Blue Mermaid Island Grill:** Live Local Music  
**British Beer Company POR:** Natalie Turgeon Band  
**Dolphin Striker:** Now Is Now  
**Hilton Garden Inn:** Joel Cage  
**Oar House:** Peter Black  
**Portsmouth Book & Bar:** Brooksie Wells  
**Portsmouth Gas Light:** Tony Santesse (Grill), Nightclub w/ DJ Koko P (Club), Chris Lester (Pub)  
**Press Room:** Club d'Elf w/ fiveighthirteen  
**Red Door:** Datacet  
**Ri Ra Irish Pub:** Live Music  
**Rudi's:** Dmitri & Guest  
**Thirsty Moose:** The Nth Power

**Seabrook**  
**Chop Shop Pub:** Stomping Melvin

**Warner**  
**The Local:** Beechwood

**Weare**  
**Boondocks Tavern:** White Eagle

**Sunday, Dec. 15**  
**Bedford**  
**Copper Door:** Charlie Christos  
**Concord**  
**Granite Restaurant & Bar:** Jazz Brunch w/ Joan Watson Jones  
**Hermanos:** Eric Chase

**Dover**  
**Cara Irish Pub:** Open Irish

**Session - Carol Coronis & Ramona Connelly**  
**Dover Brick House:** Live Jazz Brunch with Jim Dozet Trio

**Epsom**  
**Circle 9 Ranch:** NHCMA Jam-boree w/ Jonathan Scott Band

**Goffstown**  
**Village Trestle:** Open Mic Blues Jam w/ Wan-Tu Blues Band

**Londonderry**  
**Whippersnappers:** Karen Grenier

**Manchester**  
**Shaskeen:** Rap night, Industry night  
**Social 24:** Chris Lester  
**Strange Brew Tavern:** Howard Randall

**Meredith**  
**Giuseppe's Ristorante:** Open Stage with Lou Porrazzo

**New Boston**  
**Molly's Tavern:** Live Music

**Newmarket**  
**Stone Church:** Open Mic w/ Dave Ogden

**Portsmouth**  
**Press Room:** Big Band Holiday Concert  
**Red Door:** Green Lion Crew  
**Rudi's:** Jazz Brunch w/ John Franzosa

**Monday, Dec. 16**  
**Concord**  
**Hermanos:** Eric Chase

**Dover**  
**Sonny's Tavern:** Punk/Metal DJ Night

**Londonderry**  
**Whippersnappers:** Jam Night w/ Clark, David and Lowell Trio  
**Manchester**  
**Fratello's:** Rob Wolfe  
**Jam Factory:** Open Mic hosted by Amanda McCarthy  
**TJ's:** Jonny Friday open mic

**Merrimack**  
**Homestead:** Charlie Christos

**Milford**  
**J's Tavern:** Open Mic w/ Lenny McLaughlin

**Nashua**  
**Bernie's:** Open Mic

**Newmarket**  
**Stone Church:** Sinful Blues - Open Blues Jam

**Portsmouth**  
**Dolphin Striker:** Old School  
**Press Room:** Delicate Steve, Special Guest Nat Baldwin  
**Red Door:** Hush Hush Sweet Harlot  
**Ri Ra Irish Pub:** Oran Mor

**Tuesday, Dec. 17**  
**Concord**  
**Barley House:** Irish Sessions  
**Hermanos:** Glenn Paladino  
**Tandy's Top Shelf:** Open Mic with Rachel Vogelzang

**Dover**  
**Cara Irish Pub:** Celtic Bluegrass  
**Fury's Publick House:** Tim Theriault and Friends  
**Sonny's Tavern:** Comedy - Tip Show open mic with Jay Grove

**Londonderry**  
**Whippersnappers:** VJ Mark

**Manchester**  
**Fratello's:** Drew Yount  
**Milly's Tavern:** Manchuka  
**Raxx Lounge:** DJ Mike  
**Shaskeen:** Tom Deniston  
**Strange Brew:** All-Stars

**Merrimack**  
**Homestead:** Paul Luff

**Newmarket**  
**Stone Church:** Bluegrass Jam w/Dave Talmage

**Portsmouth**  
**Blue Mermaid:** The Seldom Playrights  
**Dolphin Striker:** Dave Gerard  
**Press Room:** Larry Garland Jazz Jam at 6 p.m., Hoot Open Mic at 9 p.m.

**Wed., Dec. 18**  
**Concord**  
**Hermanos:** Glenn Paladino

## COMEDY THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

**Thursday, Dec. 12**  
**Derry**  
**Halligan Tavern:** Sean Tumblety, Dirk Kirtley Keene  
**Colonial Theatre:** Brian Regan

**Hooksett:**  
**New England's Tap House Grille:** Rob Steen, Doug Blay, Matt Barry

**Nashua**  
**Fody's Tavern:** Alana Susko

**Saturday, Dec. 14**  
**Laconia**  
**Pitman's Freight Room:** Paul Nardizzi, Bob Seibel

**Manchester**  
**Club 313:** Comedy Drag Show w/ DJ Bob

**Nashua**  
**Arena Nightclub:** Alana Susko

**Monday, Dec. 16**  
**Concord**  
**Penuche's Ale House:** Punchlines Open Mic

**Tuesday, Dec. 17**  
**Dover**  
**Sonny's Tavern:** Tip Show open mic with Jay Grove

**Wed., Dec. 18**  
**Dover**  
**Rusty Hammer:** Comedy Open Mic

**Manchester**  
**Murphy's Taproom:** Open Mic w/ Nick David  
**Shaskeen:** Open Mic

**Seabrook**  
**Honeypot Bar & Lounge:** Alana Susko





## FAMILY OF FUNK

The Wooten Brothers appear Friday, Dec. 13 at 8 p.m. at The Flying Monkey. Probably the most recognizable member is Victor, a founding member of Bela Fleck & the Flecktones, but for over four decades they have all been recognized as some of the most innovative musicians in existence and are collectively known as one of the most talented and dynamic band of brothers the world has ever known, a musical tour-de-force redefining the limits of jazz, funk, soul, R&B, rock, and bluegrass. Tickets \$34&\$39 at flyingmonkeynh.com. 39 South Main Street, Plymouth.

### Contoocook

**Covered Bridge:** Open Mic with Derek Astles

### Dover

**Fury's:** Dharma Lion Dub  
**Sonny's Tavern:** Comma

### Gilford

**Patrick's:** Dustin Ladale

### Hampton

**Wally's Pub:** 90s Dance party w/ DJ Provo

### Manchester

**Fratello's:** Scott McRae  
**Ignite:** DJ Dirt Dog

### Milly's Tavern: DJ

**Strange Brew:** Lex & Joe

### Merrimack

**Homestead:** Brian Gray

### Milford

**Clark's Tavern:** Lisa Guyer  
**J's Tavern:** Eric Neilson

### Nashua

**Amsterdam:** Chips N Dip  
**Killarney's Irish Pub:** Kieran McNally  
**Wicked Twisted Bar & Grill:** Blues Band Jam

### Portsmouth

**Dolphin Striker:** Jon Plaza  
**Press Room:** Bluegrass Ensemble, Blues Band & Ukulele Circle Jam  
**Red Door:** Evaredy Ladies Night  
**Ri Ra Irish Pub:** Live Music  
**Rudi's:** Dimitri Solo  
**Thirsty Moose Tap House:** B.A. Canning

### Weare

**Boondocks Tavern:** Blues Jam w/ Paul Spera, Junie Belanger & Mickey McGuire

## NITE CONCERTS

**Capitol Center for the Performing Arts** 44 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.com  
**The Colonial Theatre** 95 Main St., Keene, 352-2033, thecolonial.org  
**Dana Humanities Center at Saint Anselm College** 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester, 641-7700, anselm.edu/dana  
**The Flying Monkey** 39 S. Main St., Plymouth, 536-2551, flyingmonkeynh.com  
**Hampton Beach Casino Ballroom** 169 Ocean Blvd., Hampton Beach, 929-4100, casino-ballroom.com  
**Leddy Center** 38c Ladd's Lane, Epping, 679-2781, ledlycenter.org  
**Lowell Boarding House Park** 40 French St., Lowell, Mass.,

www.lowellsummermusic.org  
**Lowell Memorial Auditorium** East Merrimack Street, Lowell, Mass., 978-454-2299, lowellauditorium.com  
**Meadowbrook U.S. Cellular Pavilion** 72 Meadowbrook Lane, Gilford, 293-4700, meadowbrook.net  
**The Middle Arts & Entertainment Center** 316 Central St., Franklin, 934-1901, themiddlenh.org  
**The Music Hall** 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, the-music-hall.org  
**The Old Meeting House**, 1 New Boston Road, Franconstown  
**Palace Theatre**, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, 668-5588, palacetheatre.org

**Prescott Park Arts Festival** 105 Marcy St., Portsmouth, www.prescottpark.org, 436-2848  
**Rochester Opera House** 31 Wakefield St., Rochester, 335-1992, rochesteroperahouse.com  
**Stockbridge Theatre** Pinkerton Academy, Route 28, Derry, 437-5210, stockbridgetheatre.com  
**Tupelo Music Hall** 2 Young Road, Londonderry, 437-5100, tupelohall.com  
**Verizon Wireless Arena** 555 Elm St., Manchester, 644-5000, www.verizonwirelessarena.com  
**Whittemore Center Arena, UNH** 128 Main St., Durham, 862-4000, whittcenter.com

- **Carbon Leaf** Fri., Dec. 13, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Wooten Brothers** Fri., Dec. 13, at 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey
- **Rockapella** Fri., Dec. 13, at 7 p.m., Stockbridge Theatre
- **Carbon Leaf** Sat., Dec. 14, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Boston Pops Holiday Concert** Sat., Dec. 14, at 7:30 p.m., Verizon
- **Ben Taylor** Sun., Dec. 15, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Boston Pops Holiday Concert** Sun., Dec. 15, at 2:30 p.m., Lowell Memorial Auditorium
- **Buzz Ball Featuring Velvet Elves** Tue., Dec. 17, at 7 p.m., Palace
- **Tupelo Night of Comedy - Paul**

- Nardizzi/Steve Scarfo** Fri., Dec. 20, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Preservation Hall Jazz Band - Creole Christmas** Sat., Dec. 21, at 8 p.m., Music Hall
- **Bellevue Cadillac Annual Christmas show!** Sat., Dec. 21, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Merrimack Holiday Pops** Sun., Dec. 22, at 7 p.m., Cap Center
- **Nick DiPaolo** Fri., Dec. 27, at 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey
- **Stephen Kellogg: Alone for the Holidays Part Deux** Fri., Dec. 27, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Open Mic Night Featuring Hilton Park** Thu., Jan. 2, at 8 p.m., Tupelo

- **Recycled Percussion** Fri., Jan. 3, at 7:30 p.m., Palace
- **Hot Tuna** Sat., Jan. 4, at 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey
- **Willie Nile** Sat., Jan. 4, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Recycled Percussion** Sat., Jan. 4, at 3 & 7 p.m., Palace
- **Cherry Poppin' Daddies** Fri., Jan. 10, at 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey
- **Keller Williams** Fri., Jan. 10, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Remember The 50's** Fri., Jan. 10, at 7 p.m., Stockbridge Theatre
- **Recycled Percussion** Sat., Jan. 11, at All Day p.m., Flying Monkey
- **Big Bad Voodoo Daddy** Sat., Jan. 11, at 7 p.m., Cap Center

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## SIGNS OF LIFE

All quotes are from *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*, by Betty Smith, born Dec. 15, 1896.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21)** When they had just bread and potatoes too many times at home, Francie's thoughts went to dripping sour pickles. She didn't know why, but after a day of the pickle, the bread and potatoes tasted good again. Yes, pickle day was something to look forward to. Look forward to your own pickle day.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19)** Katie had a fierce desire for survival which made her a fighter. Johnny had a hankering after immortality which made him a useless dreamer. And that was the great difference between these two who loved each other so well. Stop hankering and fight.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18)** School days went along. Some were made up of meanness, brutality and heartbreak; others were bright and beautiful because of Miss Bernstone and Mr. Morton. And always, there was the magic of learning things. Enjoy the magic.

**Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20)** You have to be a child to know how wonderful is a store window filled with dolls and sleds and other toys. Actually, no, you don't. Go and feel it.

**Aries (March 21 – April 19)** She had been in school but half a day when she knew that she would never be a teacher's pet. That privilege was reserved for a small group of girls ... girls with freshly-curled hair, crisp clean pinafores and new silk hairbows. Never mind the popularity contest.

**Taurus (April 20 – May 20)** One of Francie's favorite stores was the one which sold nothing but tea, coffee and spices. It was an exciting place of rows of lacquered bins and strange, romantic, exotic odors. There were a dozen scarlet coffee bins with adventurous words written across the front in black China ink: Brazil! Argentine! Turkish! Java! Mixed

blend! The tea was in smaller bins.... They read: Oolong! Formosa! Orange Pekoe! Black China! Flowering Almond! Jasmine! Irish Tea! You will find excitement in a simple place.

**Gemini (May 21 – June 20)** Francie thought that all the books in the world were in that library and she had a plan about reading all the books in the world. What are you waiting for?

**Cancer (June 21 – July 22)** Two very important things happened in the year that Francie was thirteen. War broke out in Europe and a horse fell in love with Aunt Evy. Keep an eye on those horses.

**Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22)** Everything was changing. Francie was in a panic. Her world was slipping away from her and what would take its place? Calm down, hold steady, and notice that some change is improvement.

**Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22)** The library was a little old shabby place. Francie thought it was beautiful. ... She liked the combined smell of worn leather bindings, library paste and freshly inked stamping pads better than she liked the smell of burning incense at high mass. Spend some time in a place that smells good.

**Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22)** Francie was ten years old when she first found an outlet in writing. What she wrote was of little consequence. What was important was that the attempt to write stories kept her straight on the dividing line between truth and fiction. If she had not found this outlet in writing, she might have grown up to be a tremendous liar. Try writing, as an outlet.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21)** It was a good thing that she got herself into this other school. It showed her that there were other worlds beside the world she had been born into and that these other worlds were not unattainable. Choose where you want to be.

## NITE SUDOKU

### Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

4			5	2		6	1	
	3							
		1					5	
		3	1					
6	9				3	8		
				7	2			
5					4			
						2		
2	6		3	9				5

Difficulty Level ★★★

## SU DO KU

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. Last week's puzzle answers are below

### 12/05

5	2	9	8	1	3	7	4	6
8	7	6	5	9	4	1	2	3
1	4	3	6	2	7	9	5	8
7	5	1	2	6	9	8	3	4
6	3	2	7	4	8	5	1	9
9	8	4	3	5	1	2	6	7
2	1	8	4	7	6	3	9	5
4	9	7	1	3	5	6	8	2
3	6	5	9	8	2	4	7	1

Difficulty Level ★★★

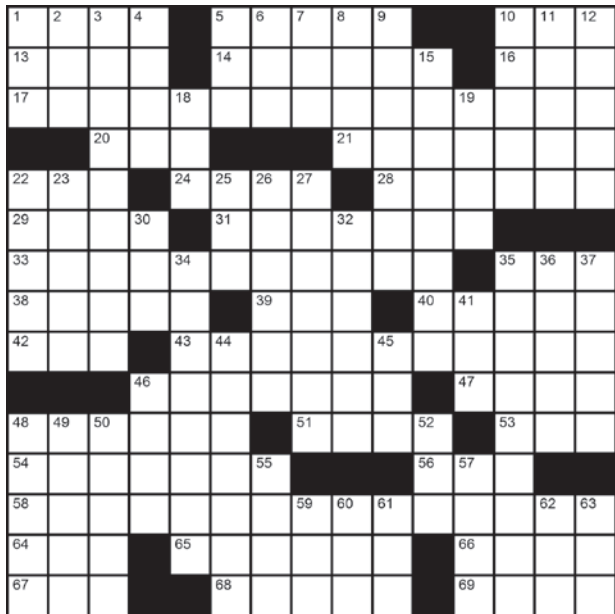
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# “Berry Good” — be an agent of change

**Across**

- 1 Composer with a clavier
- 5 “Grumpy Old Men” actor Davis
- 10 Be choosy
- 13 \_\_\_\_ & the Bunnymen
- 14 Dessert dipped in coffee
- 16 Aunt, in Avila
- 17 What a forceful noblewoman often does?
- 20 Genre for Jay-Z
- 21 “Magnum, P.I.” star
- 22 SSW, e.g.
- 24 Having great balance?
- 28 Gets on Halloween
- 29 Grammy winner for “Shepherd Moons”
- 31 Noodle or beach ball
- 33 Command for a sheep’s fleece to grow bigger?
- 35 Toy magnate Schwarz



- 68 Monica that raised a racket
- 69 Bank features

**Down**

- 1 Casino transaction
- 2 “\_\_\_\_ du lieber!”
- 3 Bright lipstick choice
- 4 Jorge’s hi
- 5 Detective Adrian Monk’s condition
- 6 Retiring
- 7 The Red October, e.g.
- 8 401(k) relatives
- 9 Che Guevara’s real first name
- 10 “None of the above” relative
- 11 King or queen
- 12 Robot’s jobs
- 15 Bob Ross’s art medium
- 18 Tax mo.

- 19 Kill
  - 22 Moneys owed
  - 23 Nunavut native
  - 25 Twitter’s was on November 7th, 2013
  - 26 “Roseanne” surname
  - 27 Start of some search engine queries
  - 30 George Harrison’s “All Those Years \_\_\_\_”
  - 32 Plundered
  - 34 Cast often seen together
  - 35 Newbs
  - 36 Ring bearer’s path
  - 37 Ready to pour
  - 41 A grand slam gets four
  - 44 Of a noticeably smaller amount
  - 45 Before, to Donne
  - 46 Bausch & \_\_\_\_
  - 48 Went out
  - 49 Teen infatuation
  - 50 Ball field covers
  - 52 Exist
  - 55 Cushiness
  - 57 Stone on the big screen
  - 59 \_\_\_\_ pal
  - 60 “Marble” bread
  - 61 Letter before tee
  - 62 \_\_\_\_ Lock (computer key)
  - 63 Antiquated affirmative
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## NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPHERD

### Compelling explanations

The Bank of England, arguing before the U.K.'s Parliamentary Commission on Banking Standards in October, warned against limiting the bonuses that bankers have come to expect from their lucrative deals — because that might encroach on their “human rights.” The bank suggested it is a human rights violation even to ask senior executives to demonstrate that they tried hard to comply with banking laws (because it is the government’s job to prove violations).

### Slick talkers

• A young woman, accosted by a robber on Washington, D.C.’s Capitol Hill in October, told the man she was a low-paid intern — but an intern for the National Security Agency, and that within minutes of robbing her, the man would be tracked down by ubiquitous NSA surveillance. She said, later (reported the Washington Examiner), the man just “looked at me and ran away (empty-handed).”

• A 29-year-old cafeteria worker at Sullivan East High School in Blountville, Tenn., swore to police on the scene in October that she was not the one who took money from a co-worker’s purse, and she voluntarily stripped to near-nakedness to demonstrate her innocence. “See? I don’t have it,” she said. Moments later, an officer found the missing \$27 stuffed in the woman’s shoe.

• Katarzyna Dryden-Chouen and her husband Clive, busted in a London police raid last year with a marijuana grow operation that had netted an estimated (equivalent) of \$450,000, insisted to a jury in October that their massive haul was not for sale but for “personal” use — in that they worship the Hindu god Shiva, and truly believed that the world would end soon and that they needed a sizable offering to burn. (Actually, the jury bought it. “Distribution” charges were dismissed, but the couple still faces jail for their cultivation activity.)

### Ironies

The Seattle City Council voted in October to seize a waterfront parking lot by eminent domain from the 103-year-old owner after negotiations to buy the property on the open market broke down. The state is funding a six-year tunnel-digging project in the area, and the city has decided it needs the property for not-yet-specified uses --except that in one part of the property, the city said it plans to operate a parking lot.

### Karma

• Larry Poulos was stopped on an Arlington, Tex., street in September, bleeding from a head wound and complaining that he had just been robbed by two men. A

friend of Poulos later corroborated that, but police also learned that the money Poulos had been carrying was the proceeds of his having robbed a credit union earlier that evening. He was treated for his wounds and then arrested.

• “Masculine” values: Breakaway former officials of the Boy Scouts of America met in Nashville, Tenn., in September to establish a Scouts-type organization that can freely discourage homosexuality, with one leader promising Fox News that the result would be “a more masculine” program. Another prominent attendee, also quoted in the Fox News dispatch, described his sorrow at the BSA’s embrace of gay boys. Since this issue broke, he said, “I’ve cried a river.”

• In November, Sweden’s National Housing Board, in charge of building codes, ordered the country’s famous Ice Hotel in Jukkasjarvi (built anew annually out of fresh ice blocks) to install fire alarms. “We were a little surprised when we found out,” said a spokeswoman (who acknowledged that the hotel’s mattresses and pillows could catch fire).

### Perspective

An exhaustive American Civil Liberties Union report in November showed that more than 3,200 people are serving life sentences in the U.S. for non-violent offenses (about 80 percent for drug crimes). Most were sentenced under “three-strikes”-type laws in which the final straw might be for trivial drug possession, for instance, or for a petty theft such as the \$159-jacket shoplifting in Louisiana, or the two-jersey theft from a Foot Locker. Said the jacket thief, Timothy Jackson, “I know that for my

crime I had to do some time but . . . I have met people here whose crimes are a lot badder with way less time.” Added his sister, “You can take a life and get 15 or 16 years,” but her brother “will stay in jail forever. He didn’t kill the jacket!”

### Undignified deaths

• Douglas Yim, 33, was convicted in September of murdering a 25-year-old man in Oakland, Calif., in 2011 after an evening of teasing by the man, who mocked Yim’s certainty about the existence of God.

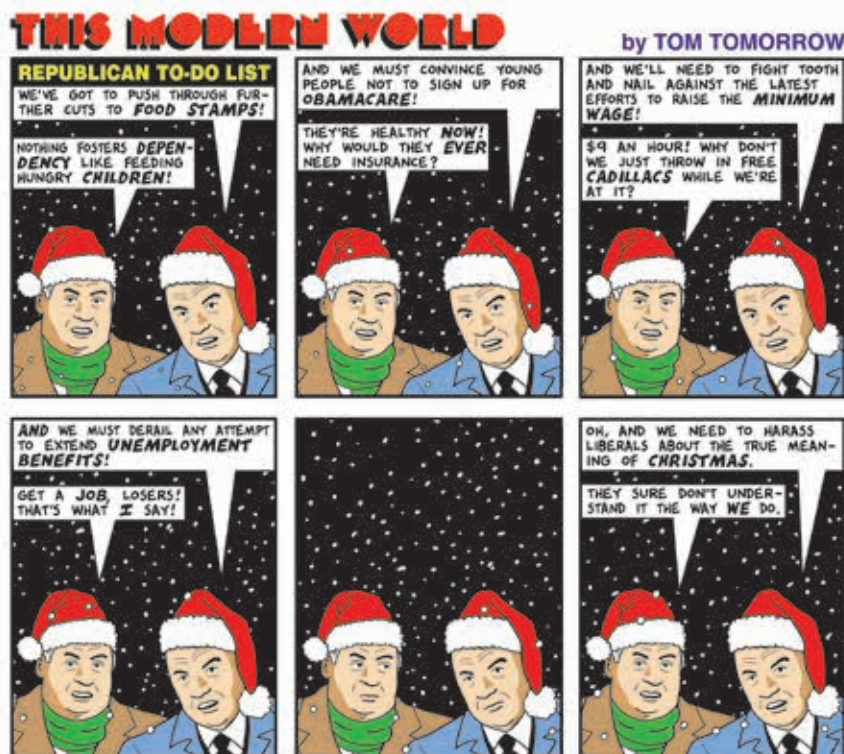
• A 27-year-old yoga fanatic in St. Austell, England, drowned in a pit in May during a well-publicized attempt to create an “out-of-body experience” to get as close to death as possible but without going over the line.

### Least competent criminals

• Lawrence Briggs, 18, was arrested in Marshalltown, Iowa, in November after he walked out of a Sports Page store with \$153 worth of merchandise he did not pay for. Moments earlier, he had filled out an application to work at Sports Page, and when surveillance cameras exposed him, managers called him in for an “interview,” and police made the arrest.

• Troy Mitchell, 47, was arrested after allegedly robbing the Valley First Credit Union in Modesto, Calif., on May 14th. While he was standing at the teller’s window, another employee of Valley First saluted him (“Hi, Troy”) because he remembered Mitchell from April 3rd, when he had applied for a car loan.

For more, visit [newsftheweird.universe.net](http://newsftheweird.universe.net).





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